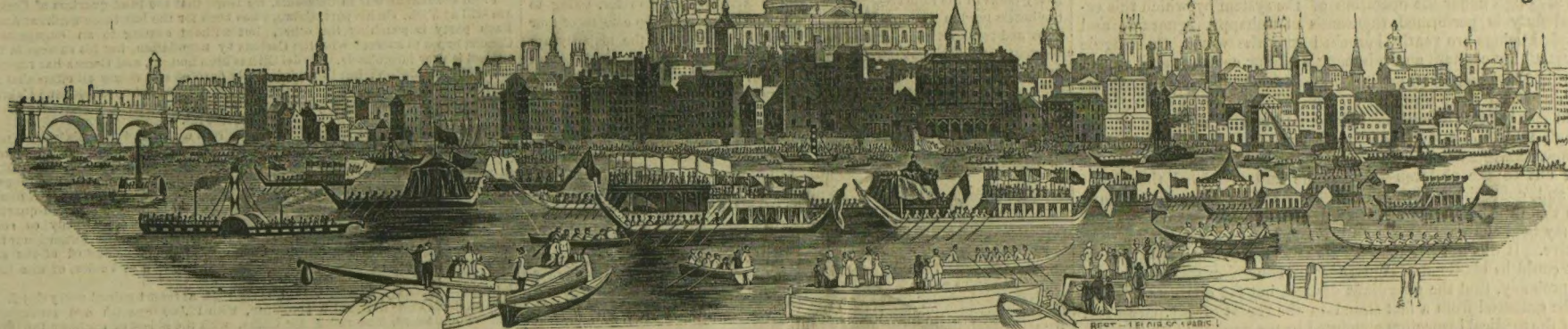


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 355.—VOL. XIV.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1849.

[SIXPENCE.]

THE FARMING OF PAUPER CHILDREN.

SOCIETY is too often placed in the position of the man in the proverb, who shut his stable door after his steed was stolen. When a railway accident occurs by which scores of lives are lost, all tongues and pens are employed in devising a remedy. No other subject stands a chance of being attended to for the customary period of nine days, which is allowed for all wonders. At the end of that time it drops and is no more heard of, until a fresh accident occurs to revive the interest, and lead to a new shutting of the stable door after a new horse has been stolen. The boiler of a steamboat explodes—an overcrowded boat is swamped—seventy or eighty emigrants are smothered by the thoughtless and unfeeling master of an emigrant ship—and the floodgates of spoken and written eloquence are opened in each case, and no one thinks or speaks of anything but how to shut the door against such unhappy casualties in future. Yet nothing is done. A little more care is perhaps exercised for a week or two. Society then relapses into its former indifference, and awaits a new sensation to arouse it into the same spasmodic and fruitless activity.

The "Tooting Tragedy," with the disgraceful and sickening details, of which the metropolis and the country have rung for the last fortnight, is an occurrence that has excited far more than the usual interest. It is sincerely to be hoped that the shutting of the stable door in this case will not be as temporary as in those of mere accidents and casualties, and that the public danger from the perpetuation of such a system as that which has been pursued at Tooting will lead to the total abolition of the farming of children, and the substitution of another system more in accordance with the public decency, the public safety, and the national Christianity.

Of course, there has been a searching inquiry. The death of one hundred and forty unfortunate pauper children, in consequence of disease caught in one establishment, was not an event that could occur without investigation. The secrets of the monster pest-house of Mr. Peter Drouet have been laid bare, both by the witnesses ex-

amined before the Coroner's Jury, and by the report of the medical officer appointed by the Sanatory Commission. The medical witnesses are not agreed whether the disease which swept off these wretched children was or was not Asiatic Cholera; but the testimony of all the witnesses is singularly conclusive of the fact, that, whatever the name of the disease may be, it was aggravated and rendered fatal by the personal filthiness, and the habitual insufficiency of food and clothing of the children entrusted to the care of this "farmer" of human lives, as well as by the overcrowding of the inmates in ill-ventilated and pestiferous rooms. Upon this point there can be no mistake. There may have been "foul ditches" in the immediate proximity of Mr. Drouet's establishment; there may have been "poison" in the air; the disease of which the children expired may have been "malignant Asiatic Cholera;" and each and all of these facts may tend to remove some portion of guilt from the head of Mr. Drouet and others: but, with the greatest possible allowance for this combination of evils, which, supposing them to be true, neither he, nor Boards of Guardians, nor Poor-Law inspectors could control, the facts remain, that the children confided to the care and supervision of Mr. Drouet lived in filth and semi-starvation; that they were insufficiently clad; that his establishment was unfitted for its purposes; and that, if they had been properly fed and clothed—properly cleansed from time to time—and lodged in a dwelling constructed with a due regard to comfort, decency, and health—the "foul ditches," the "atmospheric poison," and the "Asiatic cholera" would not have made such sickening and appalling havoc among them. After a long and patient enquiry, the Jury impannelled to enquire into the deaths of four of these children, belonging to the Holborn Union, have returned a verdict, in which they agreed unanimously, that Peter Drouet is guilty of MANSLAUGHTER; and that the Guardians of the Holborn Union have acted most negligently in their engagement with Mr. Drouet, and in their visits to his establishment. The Jury added the expression of their regret that the Poor-Law Act is insufficient for the purposes for which it was intended; and of their

hope that the time is not far distant when the necessity for such establishments as Mr. Drouet's will entirely cease.

This verdict has met with general approval; and, although we do not wish to press too hardly upon a man in Mr. Drouet's position, and although the culpable ignorance or negligence of the Boards of Guardians of the various parishes may have operated to the unhappy result as much as his cupidity or incompetency, we cannot allow the occasion to pass without expressing our satisfaction that the whole case must, in consequence of this verdict, be investigated by a still more competent and authoritative tribunal.

But whilst we have no wish either to prejudice or to screen Mr. Drouet, or other parties who may hereafter be made responsible with him for the mischief that has occurred, we must, as strictly impartial observers of the case, ask whether any man whatever could satisfactorily perform for nearly fourteen hundred children the duties undertaken by Mr. Drouet, although his intentions were the best in the world, and although he spent upon them every farthing he received from the parishes? We ask, in short, whether the ignorance of society with regard to the proper care and management of pauper children is not the primary cause of the calamity that has occurred? It is surely not enough that parishes should pay the sum of four and sixpence per week per child, or any other sum, more or less liberal, to such a man as Mr. Drouet, for feeding, clothing, lodging, superintending, and educating them. Something more than this is required. Society has not merely an interest in the physical life of the children of the poor, but a more enduring interest in their education as moral, intellectual, and religious members of a community, which boasts, and not unjustly, of being the most moral, intellectual, and religious nation in the world. If one hundred and forty poor children had not been swept off by a pestilence at a time when the public fears for its own health are more than usually excited, the fourteen hundred children confided to the care of Mr. Drouet, and the countless thousands of children in similar circumstances con-



fided to other individuals, and to other parishes in various parts of the country, might have remained for their allotted time in these receptacles of misery, and then have been let loose upon society weakened in body, stunted in intellect, and without proper moral guidance to wage the unhappy war of poverty against wealth, and to imperil each in his own sphere the safety of society. In guarding the lives of the children of the poor, we but perform a small portion of our duty. It is proved by the Tooting tragedy that even this portion of our duty is not properly performed under existing arrangements. But far more than this is proved. It is proved that if body and soul be kept together, society is satisfied, even although under the operation of the system by which this essential duty is performed, thousands of unhappy, ignorant, and degraded beings are yearly launched into the world, to struggle against all the chances and mischances of our complex civilization.

But if Mr. Drouet's establishment had been all that the parishes which confided their children to him expected it to be—of what benefit would Mr. Drouet's establishment have been to the country? Though Mr. Drouet had been more liberal in the matter of bread and meat, and less scrupulous over his miserable "ounces" of food doled out to the children—though he had preserved them from filth and contagious disease, could he and his subordinates have given them the education and moral training, without which mere life may be a curse rather than a blessing? We must reply in the negative. It was not possible. There was no system by which this result could be obtained. A pretence of education was given—the best, probably, that the guardians desired, but the quality of which may be gathered from a fact stated in the report of Mr. Grainger, one of the medical inspectors appointed by the Sanitary Commission. Mr. Hall, the Assistant Poor-law Commissioner, informed that gentleman that in the beginning of the month of November last he and Mr. Tufnell gave Mr. Drouet a written order, limiting the number to be received in the boys' schoolroom to 400, and in the girls' schoolroom to 160. This order was given for sanitary, not for educational, purposes; but what instruction worthy of the name could have been given to 400 dirty, half-starved boys at once in an unwholesome room. The truth is that Mr. Drouet's establishment was too large, and that the whole system of the farming of pauper children ought to be abolished. Many projects have in various countries been adopted for the reclamation of juvenile offenders with more or less success; but society has yet to make trial of some project which shall prevent the children of the poor from becoming criminals in their youth or manhood.

The colony of "Mettray," which the French Government, we regret to see, is about to discontinue for want of funds, might form the model of the institutions which should supersede such establishments as that of Mr. Drouet. The Jury, in the case of the Holborn Union children, express their hope that the time is coming when the necessity for such establishments as Mr. Drouet's will entirely cease. For our own parts, we can see no necessity for such establishments in the present time, but a very great necessity for their abolition. The colony of "Mettray," though partly intended for the reclamation of juvenile offenders, and partly for children whose parents have committed offences against the law, is conducted upon principles which might advantageously be applied to the support and education of children who are neither criminal themselves, nor the offspring of criminals. Though well known in this country to the number, unhappily too few, who take a lively interest in the important subject of the education of the people, it is not so well known as it ought to be. We therefore subjoin a few particulars concerning it, which, in consequence of the disclosures about Mr. Drouet's establishment, will probably be read with more general attention at the present time than they would have commanded at any other. It needs no Act of Parliament, no interference of the Legislature, to establish a "Mettray" for pauper children. The various metropolitan parishes, that pay their weekly four-and-sixpences to enrich such men as Mr. Drouet, have but to unite in the establishment and support of an institution more in accordance with true charity, sound policy, and genuine Christianity, and there will be no difficulties in their way, that ordinary patience, humanity, and skill will not remove. At all events, we recommend to the perusal of the metropolitan Boards of Guardians the following particulars concerning "Mettray," which we extract from the "Letters to a Clergyman," published, in 1846, by Mr. Minter Morgan. They will repay the study, and show how pauper children may not only be supported, but trained and educated to become happy and useful members of society. The colony of Mettray consists of ten houses, five on each side of a square, besides a church, a school, an infirmary, and other buildings. "The houses," says Mr. Morgan, in a letter written after a recent visit,

Were built by the colonists themselves, and at the expense of private individuals, whose names are inscribed upon some of them. Each house is occupied by forty boys who are denominated a family, having at the head a young man who is styled an *parent*, with two *sous-chefs* who act with him and for him in his absence, attending the boys at their meals and when retiring to their hammocks. There are also two *frères aînés*, whose duty it is to set a good example and give good counsel to the rest: these have a red ribbon tied round the right arm, and are elected every month by the boys themselves out of their own number, subject to the approbation of the directors; but their choice has invariably fallen upon those best qualified. They are elected by secret ballot, and the reason assigned for this is that the directors may become acquainted with the real sentiments of the family. The ground-floor of each house is a workshop, the first and second floors sleeping apartments. The elder boys sleep on the first floor, the younger on the second floor: with each section there is a *sous-chef*. The first floor is also used as a refectory, the hammocks being hung up carefully during the day, and the bars upon which they were fastened removed. There is a box for the boys' clothes just above each hammock. The boys sleep alternately with their heads towards the wall, so that they cannot converse with each other. At the end of the room is the bed of the *sous-chef*. The directors justly consider that the parental affection and solicitude in families are the natural means appointed by Providence for promoting both private and general morality; but, as a considerable number of the colonists are the children of parents expiating their crimes in prisons, and have perverted the means of improving their offspring by setting before them bad examples, it is necessary to form an artificial family, in which the greatest care and sympathy should be manifested towards them; so that their natural family should be remembered only as a contrast to the advantages, blessings, and friendships they are now enjoying.

The right wing is an infirmary, superintended by two of the boys, under three Sisters of Charity. The left wing is devoted to a normal school, composed, of course, of a different class of young men. This is a most important part of the institution, being a training school for intelligent youths, many of whom become *chefs* and *sous-chefs* of the families: without this normal school there would be great difficulty in finding a succession of young men qualified by their piety, talent, zeal, and benevolence, to discharge the interesting and sacred duties of the *parent*. The balcony, extending from one wing to the other, is used for exercise by the invalids, and from whence they can witness the gymnastic exercises in the grounds immediately opposite; they have also an opportunity of walking in the botanic gardens, which are in the rear of the building. There is also a large swimming-bath or pond belonging to the colony, with a convenient and ornamental shed.

According to the last report the numbers in each employment were as follows:—

Agriculturists, &c.	220
Gardeners	39
Wheelerwrights	17
Blacksmiths and Farriers	12
Wooden Shoe Makers	15
Joiners	12
Masons and Bricklayers	4
Shoemakers	13
Tailors	13
Cord and Sailmakers	5
	350

So far as the character of the individuals who first constituted the society is concerned, the attempt has been made under circumstances the most disadvantageous; and yet in five short years it has triumphantly succeeded. And who were these individuals?—poor, neglected, and ill-trained boys, many of whom were the sons of convicts, and others who had been taken up on suspicion, and rescued from a course of certain ruin. Truly this institution richly deserves its distinction of the Paternal Colony.

This is very different from Mr. Drouet's establishment. Had we space we could quote still further; but we think we have quoted enough to prove to Mr. Wakley's jury that there is no present necessity for such pest-houses as that at Tooting.

THE BENGAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

THE Bengal Horse Artillery who played so gallant a part in the conflict in the Punjab, detailed in a succeeding page, is on a different system from that of the Royal Horse Artillery. In the detachment plan of the latter, there are but three drivers to each gun, and additional troopers, acting as cavalry, for their defence. Every horse in the former—the Bengal Horse Artillery—has its rider, owing to the horses used in the batteries being very vicious. Each troop consists of four guns and two howitzers; some troops have 9-pounders, but the majority are composed of 6-pounders. The uniform of the men is splendid: the small Roman helmet, with its drooping tail of red horse-hair, produces a superb effect, especially when the troops are in motion. The rapidity and precision with which the evolutions are performed cannot be surpassed by any artillery in the world. In the Bengal Presidency, this branch of the service is divided into three brigades of five troops each. We are indebted for the accompanying sketch to Lieut. F. G. Atkinson, of the Bengal Engineers.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Vice-Presidency of the Republic has at length been filled up, by the appointment of M. Boulay (de la Meurthe) to that important office. According to the provisions of the New Constitution, a list of three names was given in to the National Assembly by the President, from among whom the Assembly was to choose the Vice-President. The names given were those of M. Vivien, Gen. Baraguay d'Hilliers, and M. Boulay (de la Meurthe).

On Saturday last, at the sitting of the Assembly, the election was immediately proceeded with, and the following was the result:—

Number of voters	695
Absolute majority	348
For M. Boulay (de la Meurthe)	417
General Baraguay d'Hilliers	1
M. Vivien	277

M. Boulay was consequently proclaimed Vice-President, and took the oaths prescribed by the Constitution. The new Vice-President then delivered a short speech, thanking the Assembly for the honour conferred upon him. He declared that he did not attribute the election which called him to the high functions of the Vice-President of the Republic to any merits of his own. He saw in it nothing but a deference on the part of the National Assembly to what it thought would be the wishes of the President of the Republic. He saw in it also a protest against the differences said to exist between the powers that be and the Assembly. He concluded by declaring that he would devote himself with courage and energy to the maintenance of the Republic. The speech of M. Boulay was very well received.

The salary of the Vice-President, which had been named at 60,000 francs by a committee of the National Assembly, has been fixed by the Assembly itself at 48,000 francs.

This election suggests some observations on the constitution of Louis Napoleon's Government. It is not a little strange that it is composed almost exclusively of adherents of the Bourbon dynasty. With the exception of M. Boulay (de la Meurthe) himself, there is not a Bonapartist in any prominent position in the Government of which Louis Napoleon is the head. The civil power is in the hands of MM. Odillon Barrot and Leon Faucher, who are Orleanists, and M. de Falloux, who is a Legitimist, and it is under the direction and control of MM. Molé and Thiers, two of the prime ministers of Louis Philippe. The Army of the Alps has Marshal Bugeaud, the avowed incarnation of Orleanism, at its head, and its headquarters are in the very middle of France. Gen. Changarnier, a Legitimist, is not only at the head of the National Guards of Paris, but he commands the military division of which Paris is the centre, with powers so extensive as to supersede those of the Minister of War himself. But the Bonapartists—the adherents of the empire—the personal friends of Louis Napoleon—they are nowhere to be seen. The President, notwithstanding he expressed his intention to give places of trust to many of his friends, has only succeeded in one single instance—namely, in making his uncle Jerome Governor of the Invalides. His Ministry have superseded all his other appointments. The Prince de la Moskowa, the son of Marshal Ney, has been superseded by M. Drouin de Lhuys, after being actually in possession of his credentials as Minister at Berlin; and the mortification to the President is the greater, from the fact that he rather pompously presented the Prince de la Moskowa with his appointment on New Year's-day, as his *écuyer*. The Count de Walewski, a near relation of the Emperor, and a man who was considered by M. Guizot of sufficient importance to be sent to Buenos Ayres as Minister Plenipotentiary, was appointed at the recommendation of the President as Minister Plenipotentiary at Turin; but General Paillet has been appointed in his stead. Except his Aides-de-Camp, and a few of the officers of his household, Louis Napoleon has not a single adviser around him whom he can safely consult.

The present situation of parties appears equally adverse to a Bonapartist régime or any lengthened continuance of a Republic. With a view to exercising an overwhelming influence on the elections for the Legislative Assembly, which must take place in the course of three or four months at farthest, the Legitimists and Orleanists have patched up the differences which had so long separated them, and entered into a league, offensive and defensive, for their mutual benefit, having made mutual concessions to each other. There is henceforth to be no distinction between Orleanists and Legitimists. The two sections are to unite into one great party, having but one device on their colours, namely, the restoration of the Bourbons. It is agreed on the side of the Orleanists, that Henry V. shall be King during his lifetime, but that he shall abdicate the Comte de Paris, who will in due time be his heir and successor. This arrangement is the more easy, because the Duke de Bordeaux has no family, and no one appears inclined to speak of the difficulties which might arise in the event of his having progeny, either by the present or any future marriage. The feeling that mutual co-operation is necessary for success, induces all parties to slur over this and other minor difficulties. In all parts of the country election committees are in the course of being formed, composed indifferently of the adherents of the two branches of the Bourbons for the purpose of managing the elections, and they are all in communication with a central committee sitting in Paris. These are to settle the candidates to be brought forward in the different departments, to get up district committees, and, in short, to manage the election in the Bourbon interest.

The question of an amnesty to the insurgents of May and June having been discussed of late in the clubs and the journals by the ultra Republicans, who charged the President with non-fulfilment of a promise in this respect, the *Moniteur* has published a communication, denying that any formal engagement had been entered into by the President of the Republic to grant an amnesty. He had repeatedly expressed his anxious desire that such a measure were practicable, and hoped that the time would come when it could be granted without danger.

Petitions continue to arrive from the departments, praying for a dissolution of the Assembly, but without producing any satisfactory result on that body; for the committee on M. Râteau's motion for fixing a day for the dissolution of the Assembly has resolved, by a majority of 8 to 4, to recommend that the order of the day be adopted on all propositions for the dissolution of the National Assembly (or, in homely phrase "to give it the go-by"); with an indication in its report, however, that, if circumstances permit, the Assembly might dissolve in May or June next.

Advices from Toulon announce that the preparations for the expedition to Italy were discontinued. It is confidently stated that the Austrian government contemplates a measure to repress the revolutionary movement at Rome.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Cambrai arrived at Toulon on the 14th; and on the next day embarked for Gaëta, in the steamer *Caton*, placed at his disposal by the Government.

It is said that the Prince of Canino has lately written a letter to the President of the Republic, threatening that if a French expedition were sent to re-establish the Pope, he (the Prince of Canino) would publish documents which would compromise Prince Louis.

In the National Assembly, on Monday, the Ministerial proposition for sending the conspirators of the 15th of May before the High National Court for trial was carried by a majority of 466 against 288.

At a Socialist banquet, which was held in Paris on Monday, and which was attended by about 500 guests, and a still greater number of strangers, M. Dain, a member of the National Assembly, referring to the vote of that day, concluded by announcing that the reactionary party was "ensnaring the Republic." "Be firm," he said, "but be calm in the presence of that reaction. Beware of silly demonstrations; beware of descending into the streets, for the streets for you would be destruction!" This recommendation was most vehemently and universally applauded. Amongst other toasts, "The speedy conversion of the President to the cause of the Democratic and Social Republic" was drunk.

The first and third volumes of the budget for the present year were presented to the National Assembly on Tuesday. The first volume contains the calculations of the receipts and expenditure for the year 1849, and the budget of the Minister of Finance prepared by M. Trouvé Chauvel, the late Minister. The third volume contains the budgets of the war and naval departments. The receipts for the year 1849, compared with those of the year 1848, show a diminution of 437,718,732. The budget of expenses has been considerably reduced. The war budget presents a diminution of 76,111,450, and the effective force of the army, which on the 1st of December last amounted to 502,196 men, and 100,432 horses, is reduced by 121,372 men and 8022 horses, so that at the conclusion of the present year it would amount to only 380,824 men and 92,410 horses, of which 78,000 men and 15,490 horses are intended for service in Algeria. The budget of marine is reduced by a sum of 22,073,029 francs. The fleet in commission is to be composed of ten sail of the line, eight frigates, eighteen corvettes, twenty-four brigs, twelve transports, and twenty-four cutters, to be manned by 20,000 men. Two ships of the line and ten frigates are to be held disposable in the sea-ports, and ten frigates in harbour. The steam-vessels in active service are to be composed of ten frigates, twelve corvettes, and thirty-four sloops. Nine frigates, six corvettes, and six sloops are, besides, to remain in harbour.

Letters from the departments give a melancholy description of the disasters

caused by the overflow of rivers in consequence of the late rains. According to the last accounts the Rhone had returned to its channel, but the Saone, the Doabs, the Yonne, the Loire and the Giesen, the Wiese and the Rhines continued to overflow and to inundate the surrounding country.

SPAIN.

Accounts this week from Madrid mention that the Minister of Marine had been attacked with apoplexy, and was not expected to survive.

The *Gaceta* of the 15th inst. publishes a decree revoking all the exceptional measures adopted by the Government in virtue of the law of the 13th of March, 1848; ordering the immediate liberation of the persons who had been imprisoned or removed from their domiciles, and permitting those who had sought refuge abroad to return to Spain. Messrs. Salamanca, Escosura, Olozaga, and other deputies are excluded from the benefit of the amnesty.

From the seat of war in Catalonia, we learn that the head-quarters of Concha are still at Vich. On his part, Cabrera has been for the last three weeks at Amer. Each party is watching the other, but without coming to an engagement. Concha hopes to succeed with the Carlists by negotiation, but his success in this respect is very improbable. Pep del Oli has been bought, and Gomez has recently made his submission; but the chiefs really devoted still refuse all offers that are made to them. With them a new *Convenio* di Vegara is impossible, and Cabrera is well aware of this.

ITALIAN STATES.

LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT, AND VENICE.—From each of those States the only news that comes this week is in the shape of rumours, in which no confidence can be placed. They relate principally to the supposed intentions of Austria with regard to Northern Italy and the Roman States, and the probable renewal of hostilities between that power and Charles Albert. The *Costituente Italiana*, of the 16th, states that Marshal Radetzky was about to remove his head-quarters to Cremona. The military hospitals and treasure chests were already *en route* for that place. The *Venice Gazette*, of the 10th, announces the formation of a new legion, which is to bear the name of *Eugenean*, and composed of the soldiers and citizens of Padua, Vincenza, and Rovigo, now at Venice, or who may come hereafter.

ROME.—Accounts, dated the 16th, state that a report gained every day fresh confirmation, that a Spanish squadron, with 12,000 Spanish and Portuguese soldiers on board, has sailed for Gaëta, with the object of enabling the Pope *vi et armis* to regain his supremacy at Rome.

The Provisional Committee of the Government, on the 13th inst., issued the following decree:—"Every private individual, or public functionary, who shall endeavour, directly or indirectly, to prevent the convocation of the Electoral Colleges, who have been called together for the purpose of choosing representatives to the National Assembly, or who shall attempt to kindle civil war, or advise the people or the army to disobey the constituted authorities, is declared to be a disturber of public order, and an enemy to his country, and shall be punished with all the rigour of the law. For this purpose, a Committee of Public Safety has been established at Rome, over which the Prefect of Police will preside, which is commanded to carry the law into execution with rapidity and energy. Every provincial President will immediately establish a similar commission. The Ministers of Justice and of the Interior are charged with the execution of this decree."

GERMAN STATES.

HAMBURG.—On the 20th, a southerly wind and a fine mizzling rain suddenly set the ice on the Elbe afloat. The booths and tents were removed with all possible speed, but many articles had to be taken up out of the water. There were large masses of ice with considerable spaces of clear water between them, so that in several places the Elbe was crossed in boats.

BAVARIA.—Dates from Nuremberg to Jan. 15 state that in consequence of the sudden thaw the Pegnitz rose, at midnight, to the greatest height within the memory of man. Many lives, it is said, are lost; and the damage sustained by the warehouses lying along the banks must be very considerable.

HESS-DAARMSTADT.—The *Darmstadt Gazette* gives a lamentable account of the first introduction of trial by jury into that city; it had been long and ardently desired by the inhabitants; but its commencement was attended by a disgraceful scene. The first case to be tried was a misdemeanour of the press. The judge and jury were assembled, when a band of Republicans, the party to which the accused belonged, forced their way into the hall, and committed every species of excess, and drove judge, jury, and counsel out of the court. The Attorney-General was hooted in the streets, and pelted with stones, and was obliged to take refuge in one of the courts of justice. The police and National Guard were so taken by surprise, that they did not interfere.

SAXONY.—The Saxon Chambers were opened by the King on the 17th. In his speech his Majesty only made an insignificant allusion to the constitution of Germany; but the Minister of State declared that the Government did not think right to publish, without the co-operation of the Chambers, the law on fundamental rights, adopted by the Assembly at Frankfurt.

FRANKFORT.—The National Assembly at Frankfurt, by a majority of 258 to 211 votes, has passed the following proposition:—"That the dignity of Chief of the Empire shall be conferred on one of the reigning princes of Germany." This result was loudly applauded by the majority, but created great dissatisfaction in the public tribunes. In the next sitting the National Assembly was to discuss the question whether the dignity of Chief of the Empire should be hereditary.

PRUSSIA.

Our intelligence from Berlin this week is very meagre. Preparations continue to be busily made for the approaching elections. The trials of persons accused of riots and outrages during the months of June, July, and August were in process before the courts. The greater part, whose acquittals had been appealed against by the Attorney-General, had been condemned to various terms of imprisonment, varying from six to eighteen months. Among them were individuals who assailed the Ministers' residences.

There were reports prevalent of a probable change of Ministry. M. Arago, the French Ambassador, took his final departure from Berlin on Monday last. Mr. Howard, First Secretary to the English embassy, having received the melancholy intelligence of the decease of his mother, has come to England, accompanied by Mrs. Howard.

AUSTRIA.

From Vienna we learn, this week, that the ice on the Danube and the Danube canal, in consequence of the sudden thaw, began to loosen during the night of the 15th, and so completely blocked up the Danube canal, that the water rushed from the sides over the banks, and soon laid the suburbs of Leopoldstadt completely under water. Many of the streets near the Danube were laid seven feet under water; and the basement stories, shops, stables, and cellars were completely flooded. Several craft floating down the Danube were shattered to pieces against the masses of ice; and at the chain-bridge the blocks of ice were piled up almost as high as the bridge itself. Several lives were lost. One of the pillars of the large bridge on the Danube had been carried away, and injured four pillars of the railway bridge. On the night of the 16th the water providentially began to sink. In many houses in the suburbs the water, when at its greatest height, reached the first story, and whole families have been plunged into ruin. In the neighbourhood between Vienna and Presburg, the ice also showed indications of a rise.

The Archduke Albert of Austria has been appointed to the command of a division of the army of Italy, and his brother William to the direction of artillery at Olmütz.

HUNGARY.

According to the 15th bulletin, published on the 15th instant by Field-Marshal Welden, the Hungarian troops who had fled from Ofen and Pesth were eagerly pursued by the columns of the first and second corps *d'armée*. Colonel Count Althaus had advanced on the 13th instant as far as Papa, whence he was to proceed to Wessprim and the forest of Bakony, in order to destroy the straggling remnants of the corps of General Perczel. On the left bank of the Danube the brigade of General Neustädter had an encounter with the Hungarians, near Assod, on the 13th instant, in which on the side of the Austrians Colonel Geramb was killed. One of the brigades under the command of Field-Marshal Simich had advanced from Nentra to Berebely. General Bem had proceeded towards Gaëta in the hope of revolutionizing the people of that province, which had been, in consequence, declared in a state of siege.

Prince Windischgrätz has issued a proclamation, in which he declares Kosuth, the Members of the Committee of Public Defence, and all the so-called Government Commissioners, outlawed; all persons are commanded to arrest them, and deliver them to the nearest military divisions.

A deputation from the city of Presburg went to Olmütz to the Emperor. His Majesty received the members with great condescension and kindness, as being the first deputation which had come with terms of loyalty and submission.

UNITED STATES.

Advices from New York to the 10th instant have been received during the week, by the Royal mail steam-ship, *Europa*.

One of the most interesting pieces of intelligence brought by the *Europa* is that of the ratification of the postal convention concluded by the British and American Governments, the effect of which was to cause the despatch of an immense number of letters and newspapers by the *Europa*. The conclusion of this treaty caused very great satisfaction in all the commercial ports of the United States.

The excitement in regard to the discovery of gold in California continues undiminished. All the accounts received, official or otherwise, confirm the statements originally made concerning the extent and purity of the deposits; and, so far as we have observed, no counter statements have been received from any quarter. Great numbers have already embarked, or are preparing to do so, for the favoured region, and among them are very many of the most energetic, intelligent, and respectable citizens.

The political events since the last mail have not been of importance. Congress has, as yet, done no business of general interest, its discussions having been confined to incidental and merely formal matters. A resolution has been adopted by the House of Representatives, instructing the proper committee to report a Bill abolishing the slave-trade in the district of Columbia. It contained a preamble, denouncing, in very strong terms, the general principle involved in slavery, and, of course, created a very considerable excitement. The Southern Members of Congress, under the leadership of Mr. Calhoun, have appointed a committee to prepare a suitable address to the people of the Southern States on this subject. It is understood that Mr. Calhoun is engaged in writing this document, and that he will put forth his utmost strength in an attempt to convince the South it has nothing to hope from the justice and forbearance of the North, and that its safety lies in being prepared and ready to maintain a separate and independent existence. It is generally considered, however, that he will not, in this appeal, be seconded by a majority of his own committee, nor can he make any impression upon the people of the South. The movement creates no anxiety, and is rather a topic of ridicule than of serious apprehension.

A bill has been some days under discussion in the United States Senate, of

which the object is to establish reciprocal free trade between the United States and Canada. No action has yet been had upon it. It meets with considerable opposition, especially from the agricultural sections, and is warmly supported in other quarters. A similar bill, intended to effect the same general object, has been introduced into the Canadian Provincial Parliament.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued an elaborate circular in regard to the appraisal of imported goods under the present system of *ad valorem* duties. Its purpose is to guard against fraudulent valuation.

The subject of the purchase of Cuba from Spain was under discussion in the Senate on the 5th inst., but no result was come to.

The cholera had entirely disappeared from New York, but at New Orleans it still raged with great intensity. The number of deaths there has been from fifty to eighty per day, with but little prospect of its abatement.

At Cincinnati, Louisville, and other cities of the West, the epidemic caused a considerable number of deaths daily.

In Texas, also, it had broken out amongst the troops, &c., and caused great mortality.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

By Her Majesty's ship *President*, 50, Vice-Admiral Dacres, we have accounts from the Cape to the 6th of December. Everything continued tranquil in the colony. The *South African Commercial Advertiser* states that the Queen's fort at Blom Fontein was completed, the guns mounted, and provisions stored for nine weeks. Reports which can be relied on are continually reaching the neighbourhood of the return of many of the emigrant Boers to their former locations at Natal, it being generally known that the value of land there has doubled, in some instances trebled, since the promulgation of his Excellency's measures in February last; especially as immigration to that settlement being on the increase, the farmers hope to find there a good market for their fat cattle and grain. Scarcely anything certain had been heard of Pretorius or the other outlawed leaders of the unhappy *émigrés*, which has ended so miserably for them, but so happily for their misguided countrymen. The inhabitants of Graham's Town had held a meeting to protest against Sir Harry Smith's plan for the organisation of a militia force. The local excitement against the proposal to send convicts to the colony continued on the increase.

CEYLON.

By the overland mail files of Ceylon papers have been received to the 16th December.

The leader of the late revolt has pleaded guilty, and implored for mercy. Sentence of death has been recorded. He attributes the rebellion to the belief amongst the people of 32 new taxes, and states that he himself was merely made a tool.

Earl Grey has approved of all Lord Torrington's measures, the policy which led to the revolt being advised or sanctioned by himself.

A large and respectable body of colonists have petitioned Parliament for a reduction in the imperial duty on coffee, on which the imposts amount at present to 200 per cent. on the value of the berry.

LABUAN.

From this new settlement we have accounts to the 9th November. The visit of ceremony to the Sultan by Sir James Brooke was undertaken on October 26, when the final arrangements for the treaty obligations of the two nations were carried into effect. On October 24, his Excellency Governor Brooke left Labuan in the *Jolly Bachelor*, followed by the small steamer *Ramée*. Having passed up the Bruni river the party halted near the town, and a Royal salute was fired from the Sultan's fort. Rajah Brooke and suite were accommodated with temporary lodgings erected on the site of the battery which first opened fire on the steamer *Phlegethon*. On the 26th, accompanied by the small number of Europeans present, and attended by his suite and a party of the *Maender's* marines from Labuan, Sir James Brooke presented the Sultan with a ratified copy of the treaty with the Queen of England, enclosed within a handsome silver box; the latter was eyed by his Highness with visible marks of satisfaction, but the treaty he did not take the trouble to examine. Sir James then, in the name of the Queen, informed his Highness that eternal friendship having been sworn between them, her Majesty had directed him to present his Highness with 3000 Spanish dollars, as a mark of respect for the free cession of the island of Labuan. Sir James then presented Pangeran Moormein with 1000 dollars, and other sums to the members of the Court, at which they were delighted; the presentation in each case being accompanied by some appropriate remarks from the Rajah of Sarawak. The party returned to Labuan on the 31st.

The accounts from Labuan itself are very unsatisfactory. Sickness was general among the small number of persons on the island. The colonial surgeon had happily recovered, but Sir James Brooke was laid up with fever at the date of our last advice. The site selected for the town appears to be an unhappy one, being in the centre of a swamp, part of which is below high-water mark. The Chinese and Kling Coolies had almost deserted the place or died of fever; and such was the scarcity of labourers that the wooden houses of the governor and others, which were constructed at Singapore, and carried over in the *William Shand*, were not set up. The local authorities were living in rude huts built on the mud, but were about to remove to some higher ground, as fever had laid nearly every one prostrate. Three more of the *Maender's* marines died, and every one of them were on the sick list. The admiral had ordered their immediate relief by Madras sepoy from Singapore.

NEW ZEALAND.

Her Majesty's ship *Dido*, 20 guns, Captain Maxwell, arrived at Portsmouth during the week, from this colony, in 81 days, the most extraordinary passage on record, bringing advices to the 4th of November.

The colony was in a thriving condition, and civilization was widely spreading into the interior, which is evidenced by many of the chiefs wishing to live by trading, instead of by predatory incursions upon the settlers and each other. The Governor was at Auckland on the 4th of November.

Colonel Wakefield, the founder of the colony, died at Wellington, in September. A Mr. Fox, a gentleman next in rank in the Company's service in the colony, had succeeded to the office of principal agent.

IRELAND.

MEETING OF IRISH MEMBERS—THE POOR-LAW.

On Tuesday, in pursuance of a circular addressed by Mr. Henry Grattan, M.P., to the Irish representatives (in which he invited them to meet together and consider the most advisable course to pursue in the present depressed condition of the country), a meeting was held in the Mansion House, Dublin. It was anticipated, that, if not a majority, at least a fair proportion of the Irish members would attend in obedience to the call made upon them; but, with the exception of the few gentlemen undernamed, the Irish members treated the summons of Mr. Grattan with neglect. The following gentlemen were present:—Mr. Grattan, M.P., Meath county, who presided; the Lord Mayor (Ald. O'Brien), Cashel; Ald. Fagan, Cork; Mr. Fagan, Wexford county; Mr. Scully, Tipperary county; Mr. Meagher, Waterford city; Mr. Keatinge, Waterford county; Mr. Greene, Kilkenny county; Mr. St. George, Galway county; Mr. Talbot, New Ross; Mr. Sadlier, Carlow; Colonel Dunne, Portarlington. A deputation from the committee of poor-law guardians, now sitting at the Northumberland-buildings, was introduced, and Mr. Naper, on their behalf, presented the meeting with a copy of the resolutions in reference to the amendment of the Poor-law, which had been submitted to the meeting of poor-law guardians held in Dublin in December last.

The chairman received the resolutions, without, however, making any promise that the meeting would be bound by them.

Some discussion of a conversational character ensued, in which Alderman O'Brien, Mr. Keatinge, Alderman Fagan, Mr. Scully, Colonel Dunne, &c., took part. The honourable gentlemen were unanimous in condemning the Poor-law in its present form, but generally approved of its principle. The exact mode of effecting amendments was, however, a matter of controversy. Mr. Scully conceived that the Irish members should be prepared to submit a definite proposition to Parliament for the amendment of the law, and thus obviate the necessity for appointing a committee, because though a committee should be appointed on the first day of the session, it might go on without concluding its labours to summer or autumn. Colonel Dunne, on the contrary, thought that a committee would accelerate legislation on the subject. If they got a good committee, they might have a good bill before Easter. He thought that it was the quickest way to work through a committee, and he would not feel it to be consistent with his character to oppose the appointment of such a committee. There was no doubt of the failure of the Poor-law, but they should show that failure not only in Ireland, but in England.

The following resolutions were passed:—

"That, in order to give effect in Parliament to any course of proceeding that may be agreed to by this meeting, we are of opinion it is essential the Irish representatives should, except when prevented by indisposition or by urgent private business, at end in their places in the House of Commons from the opening of the session to its close.—That we deem it essential for the interest of this country, in its present deplorable condition, that the Irish representatives should, free from the influence of party connexion, either support or oppose the measures of Government, whether the Whig or Tory be in power, according as such support or opposition tends to the advantage of Ireland."

The meeting adjourned to Thursday.

THE POOR-LAW.—At a large and influential meeting held last week at Mullingar (the chief town of the county Westmeath), and attended by the representatives of all classes and parties, amongst whom were the Marquis of Westmeath, the Catholic Bishop Dr. Cantwell, Sir Percy Nugent, Mr. Tuile, M.P., &c., it was unanimously resolved:—"That the amendment and reconstruction of the poor-laws were absolutely necessary; for while the burden of those laws was thrown upon the landed and agricultural interest at the moment that absolute ruin was caused to the country by legislation founded upon mistaken principles, other kinds of property exempted from the payment of the tax, such as official salaries, money in the funds, and encumbrances upon land, were benefited by the great reduction in the value of all commodities." The next resolution affirmed that the reconstruction of the law admitted of no delay, and that immediate legislation was necessary. By the third it was resolved:—"That the present system of valuation under the poor-law is unjust, and is a cause of preventing improving landlords and tenants from employing the destitute, inasmuch as, by any new valuation, they will have to pay in proportion as the lands are improved, and thus it has the effect of discouraging proprietors and occupiers, who would otherwise be inclined to give employment to the able-bodied who are now a burden on the state." The fourth resolution stated that the question of adjustment between landlord and tenant having been abandoned by Parliament last session, should be settled during the next. By the last it was resolved:—"That every hope held out at the period of the Union has been delusive; that then we possessed several thriving manufactures, which have all

been annihilated by the commercial jealousy of England. There remained to us but one source of income to meet the enormous tribute we annually pay to England; nearly one-third of the rental of the country going there, without any return, in crown rents, the rents of absentees, and interest on loans, while a double quantity of our agricultural produce is now required to pay this tribute by the fall in prices consequent on legislation for the exclusive benefit of the manufacturers of England." A petition to Parliament, embodying these resolutions, was also agreed to *nem. con.* Meetings in other counties for the same object are to be held in quick succession.

THE VICE-REGAL COURT.—On Wednesday the Lord-Lieutenant held his first levee for the season. It was very numerously attended.

DEPUTY-LIEUTENANTS.—The Lord-Lieutenant has approved of Matthew Elias Corbally, Esq., M.P., of Corbally Hall, being appointed to the vacant Deputy-Lieutenancy for the county of Meath, occasioned by the appointment of the Earl of Fingal to the office of Lieutenant of that county; and has approved of Thomas Conolly, Esq., of Castletown, Celbridge, being appointed a Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Kildare, in the room of Colonel Conolly, deceased.

DUBLIN SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS.—On Saturday evening last there was a very full meeting of the Royal Dublin Society, to witness the distribution, by Lord Clarendon, of prizes to the several successful pupils in the School of Fine Arts. The company assembled was very brilliant. The proceedings commenced with a very lengthy lecture on botany by the society's professor of that science. The successful pupils were then introduced to his Excellency, who kindly noticed the most deserving amongst them, and handed them the prizes which had been awarded. Sir William Betham then tendered the thanks of the society to his Excellency for his kindness in honouring them with his presence; upon which Lord Clarendon replied in an admirable speech, which elicited repeated applause. His Excellency, in the course of his observations, alluded to the establishment of "Schools of Design" in Ireland, which had hitherto been retarded in consequence of the Government declaring they had no funds for that purpose. His Excellency, however, had pledged his word to effect that desirable object; and on the present occasion he stated:—"My pledge has been redeemed; and, although the Chancellor of the Exchequer might, I believe, with equal, if not greater truth, have last year returned the same answer of 'no effects,' yet effects have been found, and schools of design are about forthwith to be established, not only in Dublin, but in Belfast and Cork. (Loud applause.) And as the arrangement consequent on this determination has been confided by the Government to me, I will take this opportunity of announcing that I propose to place the Dublin School of Design in connexion with the Royal Dublin Society." On the subject his Excellency proceeded to remark:—"It is not as an unmeaning compliment that I say the Irish are, in my opinion, far more apt to learn; that they possess much greater ingenuity, and much greater natural talent than the English. And yet when I see the improvement that has taken place in England—the greater beauty of form and purity of design that have been introduced into our various manufactures—when I observe that which may be termed the *renaissance* or the regeneration of taste in England, and when I know how much it is attributable to the schools of design, or rather, perhaps, to the acknowledgment of our deficiencies, that they tend to produce—it is not too much to expect that Ireland, although deprived of the advantage of a fair start, will not be behindhand in a race of competition, where application and ingenuity, correctness of eye and facility of hand, are indispensable to successfully uniting beauty and utility, and adapting them to objects for which there is a constant demand on invention." (Applause.) In expatiating on the profitability of ornamental muslin, Lord Clarendon mentioned one instance which was lately brought before the Statistical Society, namely, the manufacture of tamed or ornamented muslin, carried on at Belfast, and employing between 150,000 and 200,000 persons, the success of which is entirely dependent upon the novelty and gracefulness of pattern; "and yet the whole of the designs are brought from Great Britain or the Continent; and I have also been informed that upwards of £30,000 are annually sent out of this country for payment of the ornaments on wrappers in which linen goods are made up. (Hear.) It would be easy to give numerous instances which open wide fields for artistic skill and ingenuity, which I am sure exist in Ireland, and merely require to be called forth, and which I trust will be extremely useful, not only to the manufactures which we have but to those which I still hope to see established in Ireland, notwithstanding the absence of encouragement, and the jealous and hostile competition attributed to England, and which is supposed to be the cause why Ireland is not a manufacturing country. I need not say I am in favour of freedom of competition."

DEATHS AMONG THE ROMAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY.—Doctor Maginn, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Derry, died on Wednesday (last week), deeply regretted by his flock, and by a large circle of his fellow citizens of different religious and political opinions. The deceased first introduced the Sisters of Mercy to Ulster, and gave up to them his own episcopal palace.—The Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, the titular Bishop of Cloyne and Ross, expired on Saturday last, after a short illness, and in the first year of his episcopacy. The deceased prelate was deservedly esteemed by all parties for his piety, practical benevolence, and unobtrusiveness. He was, moreover, a quiet but sincere opponent of political agitation in all its various forms.

MR. DUFFY'S TRIAL.—On Tuesday, in the Court of Queen's Bench, upon the motion of the Attorney-General, the argument on the application to admit Mr. Duffy to bail was postponed to Thursday, in order to give the learned gentleman time to read over the affidavits put in on behalf of the prisoner.

GOGARTY IN ERROR v. THE QUEEN.—This case was argued on Tuesday. The prisoner had been tried, committed, and sentenced to seven years' transportation for illegally training and drilling, under the provision of the 60 Geo. 3, cap. 1. He was brought in custody before the Court. It was contended by Messrs. Fitzgibbon, Q.C., and Stretch, that the indictment was bad, as it did not follow the wording of the statute; and for the Crown it was urged by Messrs. Baldwin, Q.C., and Leigh, that it was correctly formed. On Wednesday the Chief Justice pronounced the judgment of the Court. He said that he and his learned brethren were clearly of opinion that the indictment was bad in every count, because of its omitting to specify the exact nature of the offence charged in the words of the act of Parliament; that therefore the sentence must be set aside, and the convict discharged. This decision not only procures the prisoner's liberty, but that of fifteen other parties who are under sentences of imprisonment.

INCENDIARISM IN ULSTER.—GOVERNMENT INQUIRY.—Major Brownrigg, deputy inspector-general of constabulary, by direction of the Government, has proceeded to the county of Down, to hold a general investigation respecting the alarming progress of the system of incendiary fires in parts of Down and Antrim. The causes of those outrages, and the instrumentality by which they are perpetrated, are involved in mystery; and the most intelligent of the Ulster journalists have been unable to supply any reasonable explanation of the sudden outbreak of the incendiary system in districts heretofore remarkable for the tranquil conduct as well as the comfortable condition of the mass of the population. One of the chief objects of Major Brownrigg's inquiry, it is understood, is to ascertain the real circumstances of the incendiary attempt on Wednesday night (last week), upon the farm of Mr. McVeagh, near Belfast, which was frustrated by the bravery of his two daughters, in repulsing a party of incendiaries and killing or wounding two of the gang. There are some influential people in Ulster who have expressed grave doubts of the accuracy of the statements published on this subject, and who hesitate not to assert their disbelief of the conflict between the daughters of Mr. McVeagh and the incendiaries. On the other hand, some respectable men in Belfast land the conduct of the Misses McVeagh. It is likely that no decided measures of repression will be undertaken by the Executive, until they shall have received an account of the result of Major Brownrigg's investigation regarding the incendiary outrages in Ulster.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

PEMBROKE DOCKYARD.—The customary annual admission of boys into this dockyard has been ordered by the Lords of the Admiralty, and a number of boys have consequently been examined, prior to selection. By this annual entry the number of efficient experienced workmen in our naval establishments is kept up. The quota of drill sergeants now attached to the Pembroke Dockyard battalion will be reduced on the 1st of April next, by the removal of five or six. The police force, it is rumoured, will also be reduced. It has been decided that the coast guard at Pembroke Dock shall occupy a portion of the Government offices, lately used for the accommodation of those connected with the packet service, at Hobb's Point; they will remove there in a short time.

ARMY OF THE PUNJAB.—The following is an official list of the cavalry and infantry regiments in her Majesty's service now forming part of the army under Lord Gough's personal command:—3d Light Dragoons, 9th Lancers, 14th Light Dragoons. Infantry: 10th, 24th, 29th, 32d, and 61st Foot. Or, total cavalry, 2200; total infantry, 5600; 7800 officers and men.

REDUCTION IN THE ARMY.—According to the *Morning Chronicle*, a reduction in the army is contemplated by the authorities to the amount of ten thousand men. The proposed diminution will take place chiefly in that portion of our forces now on home service.

THE SQUADRON OF EXERCISE.—Sir Charles Napier's squadron sailed from Lisbon on the 18th, steering southward.

HOTEL DES INVALIDES.—The *Moniteur* has this week published a report from the Minister of War to the President of the Republic, communicating the result of the investigation which was ordered some time ago as to the complaints made against the administration of the Hotel des Invalides. The Minister states that nothing has transpired to impeach the honour of the administration; but at the same time he recommends a new mode of organization of the officers of this national institution, as being better calculated to promote its good government and welfare. In consequence of this report, the President of the Republic has issued a decree in which, after stating that in future the dignity of Governor of the Invalides may be conferred either on a marshal of France or a general of division, he orders a new classification of officers, and declares that the establishment is to be annually subject to inspection. General Jérôme Bonaparte, who was appointed Governor of the Invalides on the 23rd ult., is the twenty-fifth who has been called to fill this office, comprising the Commandants of the Hotel. The first Governor was François le Maçon, Lord of Ormy, Préfet-General, and chief of the regiment of Gardes Françaises, who was nominated in 1670, and died in 1679. Under the Restoration, the first Governor was Marshal Duke de Coigny, named in 1816, in the room of Marshal Serrurier, who was dismissed. After 1830, Marshal Count Jourdan was the first Governor. The predecessor of Jérôme Bonaparte was Marshal Molitor, who was by the same decree of December 23 appointed Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Letters have reached the Government from Bermuda, describing the health of John Mitchell, the convict, as exceedingly precarious. It has accordingly been determined that he shall be removed to another colony, the climate of Bermuda being calculated to aggravate the symptoms of the disease he labours under.

L'Helvetia Fédérale, of the 19th, states that there are now only 85 refugees in the canton of Tessin, all the others having been sent across the frontier.

Private letters from St. Petersburg say that the cold had increased to 28 degrees.

The extent of the emigration direct from Hamburg during the past year has been ascertained, and the numbers are 58 ships and 7391 passengers. The emigrants went chiefly to New York, but some also to Quebec and South Australia.

The Grocers' Company on Wednesday distributed at their Hall, in the Poultry, upwards of £100 amongst a number of their poor members and their widows. The amount apportioned to each individual was regulated by the exigency of their respective cases.

The Council of the Royal Agricultural College have appointed the Rev. Daniel Mitford Cust, M.A., curate of Layham, Norfolk, to be Head Master and Chaplain of the Institution.

An arrangement has been come to by M. Vavin, the liquidator of the French Civil List, and M. de Montalivet, who represents the interests of the ex-King, that the liquidation shall be terminated by the month of July.

The Spanish Commandant, Antonio Ruiz, with several of his officers, implicated in the Seville Revolution of May last, and sent by the Portuguese Government to the Azores, where they suffered all kinds of indignities, have escaped and reached London, devoid of resources and friends.

The Public Baths and Washhouses, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, were opened on Wednesday for public use.

There are at present in England 94 packs of foxhounds, 20 of harriers and 4 of staghounds.

The Government contract for 50,000 gallons of rum, for the navy, has been again taken by Messrs. Lemon Hart and Son, of 59, Fenchurch-street.

Her Majesty the Queen Dowager has contributed the munificent sum of one hundred guineas towards the establishment of a new dispensary now in progress of formation in the destitute districts of Bethnal-green. The Lord Bishop of London has also presented a donation of £50. The institution is to be called "The Royal Adelaide Dispensary."

It is understood that Mr. Robert Stephenson is now in Egypt, at the instance of the British Government, to survey and report upon the practicability of making a railway across the Isthmus of Suez.

Last week, a respectable seedsman, from near Coggeshall, Essex, who had just collected nearly £400 in London, and in addition received £45 from another quarter, not having returned to his home for some days, inquiries were set on foot, and it was discovered that he had embarked in the steam-packet which had just sailed from Southampton for South America: his intention was to reach California.

The Scotch papers agree in stating that the cholera has decreased very much, not only in Edinburgh and Glasgow, but in the other places where it has lately been so fatally prevalent.

The British and North American Royal Mail steam ship *Europa*, Captain Lott, entered the Mersey on Monday morning, at ten o'clock, after a passage of only eleven days and twenty hours from New York to Liverpool, including her run into Halifax to land and take in the Canadian mails and passengers. Of all the passages yet made by this company's ships, this may be recorded as the shortest ever made from New York to Liverpool.

The Canterbury papers mention, as a proof of the decline of dissent, that St. John's Chapel, which had been open some few years in that city, has lately been closed, while the various other chapels are deeply in debt, and great difficulty is experienced in keeping them open.

Instead of the office of Stamps and Taxes being removed from Somerset-house to Broad-street, as had been stated, it is generally understood that the Board of Excise will be removed from Broad-street to Somerset-house, an arrangement far better calculated to meet the convenience of all persons transacting business with these departments.

Among the passengers by the *Indus*, which left Southampton on Saturday last with the India mails for Alexandria, was Dr. Bowring, late M.P. for Bolton, who has been appointed her Majesty's Consul in China. Mr. Hume, M.P., and a number of distinguished political and literary friends of the doctor, took leave of him on board the *Indus*.

The Peninsular and Oriental Company have given notice that their Italian steamers will resume their voyages to and from Southampton and Civita Vecchia, Leghorn, &c., on the 30th inst.

The French Minister of Marine has just sent a letter of thanks to Lord Ailsa, for his humane and generous conduct to some French sailors who had been wrecked on the coast of Ayr.

The whole of the Quadrant, Regent-street, is now removed, and the new works are nearly completed.

On Sunday last, the 21st instant, the learned Archdeacon of Cardigan preached in Welsh a second time, at the Welsh Chapel, Ely place, to a congregation of about eight hundred. His eloquent discourse was listened to with the most earnest attention, and he has been particularly requested to publish it for the benefit of his countrymen generally.

The Newcastle papers notice the extraordinary fact of the gamekeeper of Bryan Burrell, Esq., of Broome Park, having lately shot on the river Aln, at a distance of seventy-five yards, a wild swan, which measured six feet seven inches from tip to tip.

A commission of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris have reported favourably on the results of the trials which have been made with the powder of the flowers or leaves of an Abyssinian plant called Kousso, as a remedy in the most obstinate cases of tænia. It has not yet been tried in this country.

Lord Palmerston has appointed Mr. Kennet Loftus naturalist and geologist to the commission which is now employed, under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Williams, in surveying the boundary line between Turkey and Persia.

At Upleatham Hall, the Earl of Zetland's seat in Yorkshire, there have been laid down 900 feet of glass water-pipes, forming the longest line of glass tubes that has yet been placed in England.

According to the recent census, there are now 192,479 slaves in Kentucky; and the increase in the number of slaves in the last year is set down at 2921.

A question as to compensation for fire originated on a railway having been submitted to Mr. Andrews, Q.C., that gentleman has awarded £148 to be paid to one farmer, and £145 to another, for damage done to their buildings and corn-stacks adjoining the Eastern Counties Railway, at March, which were fired by the burning coke falling from the funnel of the engine of the mail train, the company having disputed their liability to make good the damage.

The President of the French Republic, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Interior, has pardoned 63 women confined at St. Lazare, and who having been implicated in the insurrection of June, had been sentenced to transportation. They have been restored to liberty.

The passengers of the German emigrant ship, wrecked on the 21st of December off Margate, have published in the Berlin papers an address of thanks to the inhabitants of that town for the kind and humane manner in which they were treated.

The severe gales of Wednesday, last week, gave such force to the sea at Tréport, near Eu, that a part of the jetty was washed away, causing damage estimated at 30,000l. to 40,000l.

It is computed that there are in England and Wales about 5,000,000 oxen, 32,000,000 sheep, and about 1,825,000 horses, one-fifth of the latter of which are kept for pleasure.

M. de Chabaud-Latour, first aide-de-camp of the late Duke of Orleans and of the Comte de Paris, has been named director of the fortifications at Amiens.

Now that Chester has become the centre of so many railways, it is intended to apply to Parliament next session for powers to improve its port and harbour.

The first section of the Demerara Railway has just been opened, and the planters are availing themselves largely of the facilities it affords for the transmission of sugar, &c., from their estates.

M. Bellenger, a physician of Senlis, was convicted before the Assize Court of Paris on Monday of having published a seditious pamphlet, under the title of "Simple Rapprochement." He was sentenced to imprisonment for two months, and to pay a fine of 200f.

The election for the Colonel of the 2nd Legion of the National Guards of the *banlieue* has terminated in favour of M. Napoleon Bonaparte, the son of Jérôme Bonaparte, ex-King of Westphalia. He had 3962 votes, M. Michel had 1951, and Barbès 137.

M. Lucien Murat, son of the ex-King of Naples, and first cousin of the President of the Republic, has failed in the election for the Colonelcy of the 1st Legion of the National Guard. General Gourgaud has been returned by a majority of 3494 to 2459 votes.

Recent accounts from Turkey state that the Sultan has issued a firman, in which he accords to Christians the privilege of attaining to some of the highest dignities—even that of Pacha or Vizier. The *Annullmans* have manifested great indignation at the publication of this firman.

The volcano, Mount Vesuvius, has been more than usually active since the 7th inst. On the 12th the mountain opened in two parts, and the people in the neighbourhood all fled.

The Paris *Moniteur*, within the last few days, published a decree by which merchandise and baggage arriving from abroad may be exempted from search, and forwarded for that purpose to any custom-house of the interior, near a railroad station, if sent by special convoys and in a carriage bearing the seal of the customs.

Orders have been given by the French Minister of Marine for the suppression of one day's work in the week in all the naval arsenals. This is fixed for Saturday, as being partly occupied with the pay of the men. It was at first intended to discharge a part of the men; but it was afterwards thought better to make the reduction weigh equally, and, comparatively, lightly upon all.



TROOPS CROSSING THE RAVEE.

THE WAR IN THE PUNJAUB.

We are enabled, by the kindness of several correspondents, to illustrate a few of the points of interest in the news just received from the Punjab, and fully reported in adjoining pages.

THE BRIDGE OF BOATS ACROSS THE RAVEE.

With the accompanying Sketch, we have received the following extract from a private letter:—"On the 2nd of November General Cureton's cavalry and artillery crossed the Ravee by the bridge of boats, a sketch of which I send you. It is taken from the Lahore side of the river; and the building to the right was a favourite place of resort of Runjeet Sing. After the first attempt of the Sikhs—just before we arrived—to burn the bridge, this building was rendered tenable as a place of defence, by raising the low parapet walls to a height sufficient to cover a man when stooping. This being done in a hurry, is merely composed of mud and stones, but yet quite sufficient for the purpose. In this a company of the 50th Native Infantry and a party of the Durbar troops were placed. The latter were, however, subsequently withdrawn; as one night, on a party of Sikhs coming down, not aware of the 50th being in possession of the post, they gave them warning of our being there, which led to a precipitate retreat of the insurgents, and thus disappointed —, who was in command, and all ready to give them a warm reception as soon as they came within range of his muskets."

In the sketch, besides the bridge of boats, is shown a summer-house of Runjeet Sing, on the bank of the river.

The upper view, sketched by Lieut. Needham, represents a portion of her Majesty's 10th Regiment on their passage across the Ravee, in boats, a few miles above Moulton.

PERTAB CHUND

Is an unsuccessful Pretender to a rich Rajahship of Bengal, who has just been arrested as the leader of an intrigue of the Sikhs, and as the head of a plot for seducing our native soldiery from their allegiance, and massacring the English inhabitants of Calcutta.

The previous career of this man is not a little remarkable. In 1835, he assumed the name of Rajah Pertab Chund, a quondam heir-apparent to the valuable zemindary of Burdwan, who had died in 1820; he told a marvellous story of his escape from the funeral pile; alleged that he had passed fifteen years in pilgrimage, as a penance for having listened to the doctrines of Ram Mohun Roy; and succeeded, without much difficulty, in imposing upon many credulous people. In the following year, having marched, at the head of a motley rabble, into the district of Bancoorah, he was apprehended, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. The year 1837 he passed in Calcutta, employed in perfecting his imposture, and strengthening himself by liberal grants of the Burdwan lands to all who were silly enough to advance him money, or otherwise aid him in his schemes. An action of ejectment was also commenced, in the Supreme Court, against the Rajah of Burdwan, but was never proceeded with, as the impostor well knew that a judicial investigation would be fatal to his plans.

In 1838 he proceeded with a large fleet of boats to a town called Calua, within the zemindary of Burdwan. His professed object was to institute an action in the District Court of Burdwan for possession of the zemindary, but, from some intercepted letters of his to the chiefs of the hilly districts, to the west of Burdwan, who had lately been in rebellion against the Government, it was ascertained that his real design was to employ force; and the magistrate of Burdwan, in consequence, proceeded to Calua, with two companies of sepoy, and succeeded in securing the would-be Rajah, with the greater part of his followers. No resistance was offered, but, owing to a mistake on the part of the sepoy, a volley was fired into the boats, and several of the impostor's adherents were killed and wounded. For this act, the magistrate, Mr. Ogilvy, was, at the instigation of some

of the pseudo Rajah's friends, tried in the Supreme Court of Calcutta; but, as it was proved that the firing took place without his orders, he was honourably acquitted.

By this time the excitement which the claims and proceedings of the pseudo Rajah had created throughout the country became very great, and it appeared ab-



THE PSEUDO RAJAH, PERTAB CHUND.

solutely necessary to the Government that a public inquiry should take place, in order that the question of his identity might be set at rest. The investigation was entrusted to Mr. Samuells, the magistrate, of Hooghly, and occupied many weeks. The interest manifested in the proceedings by all classes of the community, European and native, was, in India, unprecedented. The prisoner was defended by two of the most eminent counsel at the Calcutta bar, and the mass of evidence

taken was enormous. The result was, that the prisoner was committed to the sessions to take his trial on distinct charges of personation, obtaining money under false pretences, and riotous assemblage.

It was fully proved that the real Pertab Chund had died, and been burned in the presence of many thousand spectators; that the prisoner was not the party he professed to be; and that he was, in fact, a person of the name of Kistololo Brahmacharee, who had been in the habit of wandering over India for many years under various disguises, and practising upon the credulity of his fellow-countrymen. He was ultimately sentenced to pay a fine of 1000 rupees; and since that period, little has been heard of him, except that he was living in the bazaars of Calcutta, sunk in debauchery, and preying on the credulity of the few dupes who still adhered to him.

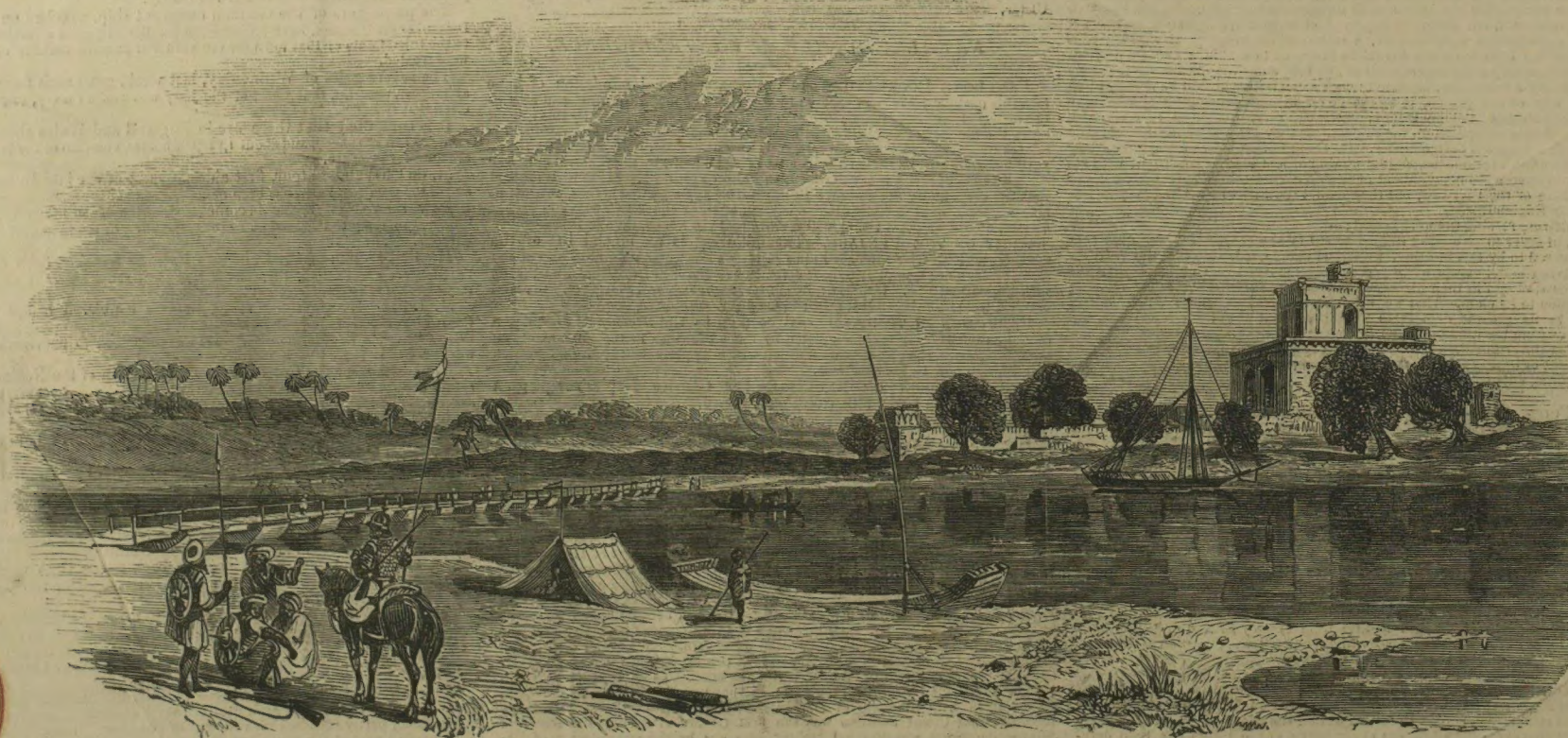
From the accounts which have reached us it would seem that his present escapade is likely to be his last, and that he stands every chance of ending his days on the shores of Martaban, the Botany Bay of Bengal. His story, of which we have given a very imperfect outline, is full of romance, and worthy of more space than we have been able to devote to it.

The accompanying Sketch was taken in the Hooghly gaol, by Mr. C. Grant, a clever artist now resident in Calcutta.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF AN OFFICER OF THE BENGAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

(Dated December 1st, 1848.)

"There has been a skirmish at a place called Ramnuggur, on the river Chenaub, about forty miles north of Lahore. It was intended for a reconnaissance, but circumstances turned it into a cavalry fight, as I will endeavour to explain to you. Lord Gough, hearing that the enemy had drawn up in force on the opposite side of the river Chenaub, determined to reconnoitre them, and two fords across the river. For this purpose they detached two parties, the first consisting of the 3rd Dragoons, the 8th Light Cavalry, and a troop of Horse Artillery, to examine one ford; the second party consisted of the 14th Dragoons, 5th Light Cavalry, some irregular Cavalry, and Lieut.-Colonel Laurie's troop of Horse Artillery, to look at the other ford. The force left camp about 3 a.m., and arrived on the ground about 7 a.m. One of the parties was going along steadily, as directed, when they came across the nullah, and seeing a large number of the enemy's cavalry beyond, Colonel Havelock ordered a charge; and as the party were crossing the nullah, the enemy's guns on the opposite side opened on them, at about 300 yards range. The Sikhs had placed their guns in sked batteries; and, as you may suppose, the sudden discharge took our party by surprise: nevertheless, they went on, seeing a great number of the enemy beyond the nullah. The ground was very heavy and sandy: a large portion of our cavalry got into a quicksand, and the horses, being somewhat exhausted by the march over the heavy ground, were not able to extricate themselves as soon as they might have done. The enemy's infantry were, in the meantime, behind large sand hillocks, and steadily firing into our men, as well as from the large Sikh guns on the other side of the river. The horse artillery immediately unlimbered their guns and returned the fire as well as could be expected, from six small guns. The retreat was then sounded, and, in recrossing the nullah, one of our guns, as also two ammunition-waggons, stuck fast in the sand, the poles of the limber and the horses being shot: they had, however, previously spiked the gun, so as to render it useless to the enemy. The Commander-in-Chief, hearing the firing, had ridden up to the spot. Meantime, Colonel Havelock was about to make another charge at the enemy with the 14th Dragoons, but the Commander-in-Chief sent an order by General Cureton, who commanded the cavalry division, to prevent the charge; and, in conveying this order, the General was shot through the heart. Colonel Havelock has also fallen. Colonel Alexander, 5th Cavalry, was shot through the right arm, and has since had it taken out of the socket. Several officers of the 14th Dragoons were killed and wounded; also several officers of the 5th Light Cavalry, whose names we have not heard. The gun and ammunition-waggons were abandoned by order of Lord Gough, as the fire from the enemy's guns was very severe. The guns on the opposite side of the river, and the portion of the enemy's force



BRIDGE OF BOATS OVER THE RAVEE, AND RUNJEET SING'S SUMMER HOUSE.



MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOSEPH THACKWELL, K.C.B., K.H. &C.—FROM A PICTURE BY T. H. WILSON.

drawn up behind a quicksand, has been a regular trap, into which we have fallen most woefully."

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOSEPH THACKWELL, K.C.B., K.H., &C.

It will be seen by the details of the intelligence from the Punjab, in a succeeding column, that its most gratifying event is the defeat in a pitched battle, on the right bank of the Chenab, of the Sikh army, 40,000 strong, headed by Shere Singh in person, by a small force of the British troops, under 9000 strong, ably commanded by Major-General Sir Joseph Thackwell, a veteran of the Peninsular School. The enemy lost 4000 men and five guns, with Shere Singh's private elephant; whilst the loss of the British did not exceed 400 in killed and wounded. The enemy retreated during the night of December 3, and were pursued by Sir Joseph Thackwell; and, according to the latest accounts from Bombay, a report was current in Lord Gough's camp, that the gallant Major-General had come up with Shere Singh's force at Dinjah, 20 miles distant from the Chenab, where a battle had been fought. Nothing more can be known until the arrival of the next Indian Mail; but, as the Sikh army, after their defeat on December 3, had subdivided into three parties, it is not very probable that any portion of them who may evade their pursuers will remain long together, particularly as one of our allies is in their rear.

In the *Daily News* of the 23rd inst. we find the following outline of Sir Joseph Thackwell's services:—

"This gallant and distinguished officer entered the service of his country so far back as 1800. His first commission, as cornet in the 15th Light Dragoons, bears date 23rd April in that year; he obtained the rank of lieutenant in 1801; captain in 1807; major, 1815; brevet lieutenant-colonel, 1817; lieutenant-colonel, 1820; colonel, 1837; local rank of major-general, in India, in the same year; and in England in 1846. He

served with Sir John Moore in Spain was engaged at Corunna, Vittoria (wounded), the Pyrenees, Orthes, Toulouse, and Waterloo; in the latter he lost an arm. During the above service, it appears, by the "Records of the 15th Hussars," he frequently greatly distinguished himself, and was several times specially recommended for promotion. From 1820 to 1832 he commanded the 15th Hussars, and his services were oftentimes required in quelling riots at Nottingham, Birmingham, &c. In 1837 he proceeded to India; and being promoted to the rank of major-general, held important and distinguished commands in the first Afghan campaign, the campaign in Gwalior, and on the Sutlej in 1846. He bore a conspicuous part in the actions of Ghuznee, Maharajpore, and Sobraon; in the last, his leading the cavalry with such effect against the Sikh batteries is fresh in the memory of our readers."

The accompanying Portrait is from a painting by Mr. Thomas Harrington Wilson, whom we have to thank for leave to engrave the same.

The intelligence from India, received this week by despatches in anticipation of the Overland Mail, is of more than usual interest and importance, though in some respects of a painful character. The dates are—from the army of the Punjab to the 28th of November, Calcutta the 8th of December, and Bombay to the 18th of December.

The principal feature of this intelligence is the retreat of the Sikh army under Shere Singh from the banks of the Chenab, along the mountain chain, in the direction of the Jhelum, after remaining for nearly a fortnight in the presence of our army, which, during the greater part of that period, was waiting the arrival of reinforcements.

By the accounts in the last mail Shere Singh was described as occupying a position on the right bank of the Ravee, whilst Lord Gough's camp was situated about twelve miles from Ramnuggur, on the left bank. According to our troops advanced under Lord Gough, the enemy were reported in force at several places, but always evacuated them before they were occupied by us; they were at

length, however, ascertained to have determined on making a stand at Ramnuggur, and General Cureton was directed to halt until more troops came up. Brigadier-General Campbell joined his camp on the 12th, taking command as senior officer, and bringing up another brigade.

Considerable additions to the force of the camp were made during the five or six days following, and at length, the Commander-in-Chief having considered that the time had arrived for the commencement of operations, orders were issued late on the night of the 21st of November, in the camp of Brigadier-General Campbell, at Saharun, for the troops to parade on the ensuing morning, at three o'clock, in front of the centre of the camp, without sound of bugle, trumpet, or drum; and a strong detachment marched, under the personal command of the Commander-in-Chief (who had come up from the head-quarters camp to superintend the proceedings of the morning), at the appointed time, and reached the left bank of the Chenab, near Ramnuggur, at an early hour, in the hope of surprising the detachment of the enemy who were known to be on the same side. It would appear, however, that these had early intimation of the movement of the British troops, and had all retired across, except a few stragglers and a picquet, which fled, leaving their tents pitched. The object of the movement on our side was, however, mainly to ascertain the real strength and position of the enemy, and this was in some degree effected on clearing Ramnuggur towards the left bank of the river. Then it became apparent that their camp was pitched along the right bank of the river, which was seen to be crowded by thousands of men, whose white and light-coloured garments strongly contrasted with the bodies of the British troops, to which the eyes of our officers had been for some time past accustomed. In drawing out their fire, to ascertain their real strength in guns, and pressing, perhaps, rather too zealously in pursuit of those of the fugitives who appeared to be within reach, while crossing at the ford with water to the waist, Lieutenant-Colonel Lane's troop of Horse Artillery (2d of the 3d brigade) got into heavy sand before they were aware of it, and a leading horse having been shot, it was found, when the order came to limber up and retire, that one of the guns could not be moved. The Sikhs were not slow at perceiving this most inopportune embarrassment, and directed so hot a fire upon the spot, that it was found necessary to abandon the gun, although a light field battery was brought up to cover it. But the fire of the enemy from guns that were sheltered, while ours were exposed in an open plain, was so heavy that nothing could be done beyond scattering a few of the nearest groups of the enemy and then retiring. The cavalry were ordered to do the same, and take shelter from the enemy's round shot behind a top of trees to the left, where they remained quietly for a time, the infantry being during that interim drawn up on the right. Some of the enemy being subsequently discovered on the left bank of the river further down to the left, a large number of our cavalry, among whom were the 3d and 14th Light Dragoons, moved down, by order, to dislodge them.

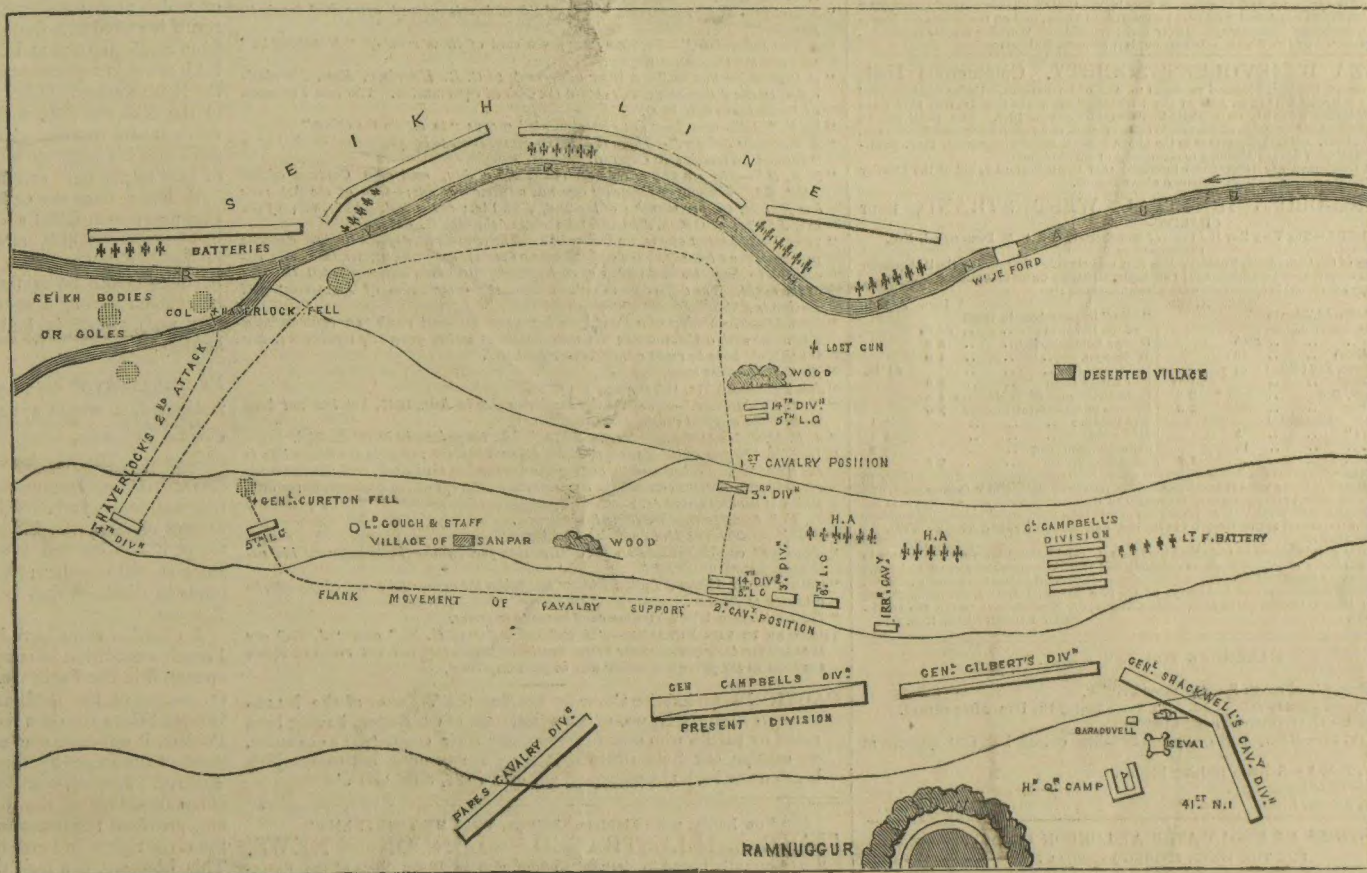
The interesting details of this brief but sanguinary combat, which cost us so dearly, are graphically described in the following letter from an officer who was an eye-witness of the scene:—

"Camp, Ramnuggur, November 25, 1848.

"On the morning of the 22nd instant, at 2 A.M., the orderly sergeant of the E troop came into my tent at Deeda Singh camp, and showed me the order-book, with the following command:—The troops will parade in marching order at a quarter before 3 A.M., without sound of trumpet or bugle, and form up on their respective alarm posts."

"The morning was pitch dark when the order to move forward was given; and before we had advanced a mile, cavalry, camp-followers, artillery, and infantry were jumbled together. At length day broke, order was restored, and a report ran through the columns that Ramnuggur was in sight. Immediately

(Continued on page 56.)



PLAN OF THE BATTLE OF RAMNUGGUR.—SKETCHED BY LIEUT. —, A SUBSCRIBER.



CHARGE OF THE 14TH DRAGOONS.

J. G.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENTS AT WINDSOR CASTLE.—The last theatrical representation at Windsor Castle took place on Thursday night, and was most successful. Both the "Housekeeper" and "Sweethearts and Wives," the pieces selected for the entertainments, apparently gave the highest satisfaction; and Mr. Buckstone in the former, and Mr. Wright in the latter play, convulsed the Royal party with laughter. A gracious message was conveyed to Mr. Kean, through Colonel Phipps, at the close of the performances, the Queen and Prince expressing themselves in the warmest admiration of the manner in which both pieces had been played, and bestowing signal commendations upon Messrs. Buckstone, F. Matthews, and Wright, for their delineations on this occasion, and expressing in the most gracious manner the Royal approval of the exertions of Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean throughout the series of representations.

REPRESENTATION OF LEOMINSTER.—Sir E. B. Lytton, tired, as he says, with the indecision of the electors as to the man of their choice (100 out of a constituency of 400 being still dubious), has fulfilled his promise, and withdrawn his name as a candidate. The field, however, is not left open to Mr. Peel, for the withdrawal of Sir Edward has once more brought into the field Mr. Phillimore, son of Dr. Phillimore, who, it will be remembered, offered himself as a candidate for the representation of the borough on extreme Liberal principles, but subsequently retired, as he said, "in order that the Liberal party might not be divided."

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Government has despatched orders to the authorities in the departments to proceed forthwith to draw by ballot the jury which is to try the prisoners ordered to go before the High National Court to be held at Bourges. M. Baroche is to conduct the prosecution.

The *Réforme*, the organ of the Red Republicans, publishes what it calls "the protest of the people of Paris" against the decree ordering the trial of the prisoners before the High National Court instead of the ordinary tribunals.

It has been definitively resolved to reduce the Garde Mobile from 24 battalions to 12.

The *Moniteur*, of Thursday, publishes an official contradiction to the rumour that a letter had been received by the President of the Republic from the Prince de Camino, his cousin, in which the latter declared that if France should intervene in Italy for the purpose of replacing Pius IX. on the Pontifical throne, he would publish letters written by Louis Napoleon Bonaparte which would do much injury to their author.

WEST INDIES.

By the mail packet, which arrived in Southampton on Thursday afternoon, we learn from Jamaica that the House of Assembly had come into strong collision with the Council, and voted that they would not pass any bill raising a revenue beyond the 15th of February, till a measure of retrenchment, consistent with the impoverished condition of the island, were passed into law.

In connexion with the foregoing, a great deal of excitement had been caused in Jamaica in reference to an extraordinary error which had crept into the Import Duties Continuance Bill, and of which immediate advantage was taken by the Council; the Governor, Sir C. Grey, also expressing his determination to avail himself of it. The bill, which passed through the House up to its final stage, limited its own duration to the 15th of February, 1849; and the Council, it was said, grasped at the error, and passed the bill through all its stages in one night. We learn that the House of Assembly had determined not to form a House unless a rectification of the error was made. In such case, no bills before the Governor, whether of revenue or otherwise, could receive assent. The House had abstained from sitting for two days prior to the packet's departure.

Arrivals of refugees from Hayti still continued to take place at Jamaica; the poor people so arriving were destitute of the common necessities of life.

At Havana a most rigid and annoying quarantine was exacted from all ships arriving from England or the United States, in consequence of the supposed prevalence of cholera in those countries.

Martinique and Guadeloupe remained perfectly tranquil. The yellow fever still hovered at Barbadoes, but hopes were entertained that it was likely to cease, as no new case had appeared for a fortnight. From Berbice, Demerara and Tobago, we learn that public meetings of the inhabitants had been held for the purpose of adopting resolutions and founding upon these petitions to the united kingdom. These resolutions set forth the deplorable condition of the colonies, the unfortunate position in which they were placed by the refusal to allow a reduction of the salaries upon the civil list, the disappointment produced by the results of the last session of the British Parliament, and the imperative necessity that some effectual relief should be accorded by the next.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT WINDSOR.

On Monday, her Majesty rode out in a pony phaeton in the course of the morning, into the Great Park, attended by the Duchess of Sutherland. Her Majesty's Equerry attended on horseback. Prince Albert enjoyed the sport of shooting in the forenoon. His Royal Highness was attended by the Earl of Morley, Col. the Hon. A. N. Hood, and Captain the Hon. A. Gordon. Her Majesty and Prince Albert dined in the evening with her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, at her residence, Frogmore House. The Royal party from the Castle accompanying and attending her Majesty and his Royal Highness consisted of the Duchess of Sutherland, Lady Constance Leveson Gower, Hon. Miss Murray, Hon. Miss Macdonald, the Earl of Morley, Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood, Lieut.-Col. the Hon. C. B. Phipps, Captain the Hon. A. Gordon, and Major-General Bowles.

On Wednesday, their Royal Highnesses the Hereditary Prince and Princess of Parma, attended by the Lady in Waiting on the Princess (Countess Lopez), arrived at the Castle on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince. The Countess of Jersey and Lady Clementina Villiers, the Earl of Lincoln, Sir George and Lady Grey, Sir Charles and Lady Mary Wood, and the Right Hon. Thomas Pemberton Leigh arrived at the Castle in the evening.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Orange and suite arrived at Blackwall on Sunday morning, at eight o'clock, by the General Steam Navigation Company's mail steam-ship *Ocean*, from Scheveling. Count Schimmelpenninck, the Netherlands Minister, was at Blackwall, at an early hour, to meet his Royal Highness.

Viscount Palmerston, we are happy to learn, is much better, and will shortly be able to resume his official duties at the Foreign Office.

Lord John Russell had a dinner-party on Saturday, at his residence in Chesham-place. The company included the Earl and Countess Minto, Lord Foley, Sir F. and Lady Arabella Baring, Mr. Dickens, and Mr. Rogers.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Hon. George Sulyarde Stafford Jerningham, now Secretary to her Majesty's Legation at Madrid, to be Secretary to her Majesty's Embassy to the Ottoman Porte.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Daniel Blair, Esq., Doctor of Medicine, to be Surgeon-General for the Colony of British Guiana. Also Geo. Marsh, Esq., to be Resident Magistrate at Mossel Bay, in the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope.

A COMMITTEE of the Lords of her Majesty's most Hon. Privy Council for Trade and Foreign Plantations held a meeting on Wednesday at the Board of Trade, Whitehall, respecting the Australian colonies. The Lords present were the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, Earl Grey, and Sir Edward Ryan. The committee met at half-past 12 o'clock, and sat until 3 o'clock.

His Excellency the Marquis de Sauli, Ambassador Extraordinary from the King of Sardinia, and suite, arrived on Wednesday at Mivart's Hotel, from Paris.

THE REV. R. SIBTHORP.—We are sorry to hear that this eloquent minister of the Established Church is labouring under severe indisposition.—*Lincolnshire Herald*.

The Hon. John Elliot, who was long employed in the civil service in India, has been appointed one of the Secretaries of the Board of Control, in place of Mr. Wyse, who has resigned.

The Address in the Lords will be moved by Lord Bruce, and seconded by Lord Bateman.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

STRANGE v. PRINCE ALBERT.—The arguments in this appeal from the decision of the Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce were commenced on Friday (yesterday) before the Lord Chancellor. The facts of the case having been published so recently, it is only necessary to state that the appeal is against the injunction, which restrains the appellant from publishing a catalogue of the etchings executed by her Majesty and Prince Albert. In the course of the proceedings yesterday, it was elicited that the catalogue had been printed, but not circulated.—The arguments will last several days.

BAIL COURT.

THE QUEEN v. DROUET.—The TOOTING CHOLERA CASE.—On Wednesday last, on the motion of Mr. Ballantine for a rule to show cause why Mr. Drouet, the proprietor of the infant pauper establishment at Tooting, against whom the Coroner's jury had on Tuesday returned a verdict of manslaughter, should not be admitted to bail, Mr. Justice Erie granted a rule absolute for a certiorari to bring up the depositions, and a rule nisi to show cause why Mr. Drouet should not be admitted to bail.

SITTINGS OF THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—The Lord Chancellor has signified his intention that the Chancery sittings shall continue at Lincoln's Inn after the present term, until Easter Term, when the old custom of holding the sittings at Westminster during term will again prevail.

ACCIDENT WITH FIRE-ARMS.—An accident, which terminated fatally, occurred on the 24th instant, at Bicester, to Master Elliott, aged seventeen, son of Sir Charles Elliott, Bart. The unfortunate youth, who was a pupil under the Rev. J. W. Watts, at the Vicarage, was out in the fields, near the town, shooting, in company with Master Edward Watts. On firing at a blackbird, the gun burst, and the breech struck him on the eye, entered the head, and scattered his brains on and about his clothes.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

SANITARY STATE OF THE CITY.—The City Commission of Sewers held a court on Tuesday, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, when the chairman, Mr. Deputy Peacock, and all the subordinate officers, were re-chosen. Twelve members of the court were then appointed to act as a board of health. Mr. Simon, the medical officer, presented a report in which he states:—"Serious defects of sanitary arrangements may be traced in nearly the entire district which extends from Little Moorfields (E.) to Farringdon-street (W.) from the City boundary (N.) almost to the lines of Little Britain, Falcon-street, and Alder-street (S.). But I would particularly draw attention to the courts which lie between Snow-hill and West-street, Smithfield; to those which open into Long-lane; and (worst of all) to those which lie about Moor-lane, Milton-street, Whitecross-street, and Golden-lane, in the ward of Cripplegate. Many of the courts which adjoin Bishopsgate-street Without, and particularly those which lie between Houndsditch and Petticoat-lane (though less defective in sewerage), are yet in a very unhealthy state; and the south-east corner of the City, lying about the Minories and Rosemary-lane, tells, by the constant prevalence of fever, even without reference to the surveyor's plans of sewers, that its poorer portions are almost entirely destitute of the means of drainage and purification. Districts such as those I have specified are not only the constant abode of fever, but are likewise chosen with unerring precision for the ravages of every new epidemic which may infect the metropolis—of influenza, of cholera, and the like." On the subject of slaughter-houses, Mr. Simon says:—"I have had repeated meetings with the surveyor, and, with the clerk of this honourable court, have made personal inspection of several establishments, and have consulted with persons practically familiar with the matter. Slaughter-houses can only be rendered compatible with the health of the neighbouring population by the strictest provision for their perfect ventilation, perfect drainage, and perfect cleanliness. These conditions can never be fulfilled in cellars; and I therefore recommend, on sanitary considerations, that all underground slaughtering be absolutely prohibited." The City Commissioners of Police also sent in a communication from Mr. Childs, in which, amongst other suggestions, he proposes the forming of a sanitary police:—"The principle I propose to establish is that of sleepless superintendence over the various departments of water, gas, fire, and air, in whatever can preserve health or promote comfort, to be effected by the daily inspection of each and all of the highways and by-ways of the City—its streets, lanes, alleys, and courts—to the end that no nuisance or danger shall be allowed to continue; that the advantages of water and light be uniformly and amply supplied; and that the inhabitants of the City, of every condition, may enjoy the full benefit of this system of generous protection. Notices should be periodically left with every dweller, inviting attention to our arrangements and co-operation in their observance, so that, in effect, no just cause of complaint should escape detection or elude redress." Gore, the dust contractor, having been fined £5 for not removing the filth in Smithfield, the Court adjourned.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.—At the Court of Directors at the East Indian House on Wednesday, it was resolved to refuse the terms demanded by the East Indian Railway Company for the line from Calcutta to Delhi, or a portion of it. On the Bombay line no discussion took place, and its prospects are, therefore, not affected by this decision. In neither case will any resolution be final until sanctioned by the Board of Control.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE AID OF DRESS-MAKERS AND MILLINERS.—On Wednesday a meeting of the ladies' committee of this association was held at their offices in Clifford-street, Bond-street, the Countess Grey presiding. The report stated that, during the past year, the progress of the society was highly satisfactory and encouraging, although there had been a declension in the pecuniary resources; yet a decided advance had been made in the realisation of the principal objects of the society; viz. to reduce the inordinate hours of work prevailing—in many instances the young females employed being compelled to labour from sixteen to eighteen hours per day. The result of the efforts made by the committee has been, that, both in London and the country towns (although there are yet, unhappily, numerous exceptions) a marked amelioration has taken place. The report proceeded to state that the other branches of the institution—the registration system, by which many hundreds are provided with situations, the medical relief fund, a provident fund for investing savings—were also increasing in prosperity. Many deserving cases of distress had been relieved with pecuniary assistance during illness or temporary difficulties. The funds are at present low.

THE SILK TRADE.—MEETING OF THE SPITALFIELDS WEAVERS.—On Tuesday evening a meeting of the operative broad silk hand-loom weavers of Spitalfields, Bethnal-green, and the vicinity, was held at the School-House, Hare-street, Bethnal-green, in pursuance of a printed circular, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the necessary steps to prevent the continual reductions persevered in by the manufacturers, by applying to the Legislature for the establishment of local boards of trade; feeling confident that, should this fearful state of things continue, not only is the ruin of the operatives certain, but also of all tradesmen in their immediate locality." The meeting, which was numerously attended, was addressed by several of the operatives, and by the Rev. Mr. Tyler, one of the clergymen of the district, all of whom concurred in the advantages that would be derived from the establishment of local boards, in maintaining a proper understanding between masters and workmen. Resolutions approving of such boards were unanimously agreed to, after which the meeting separated.

THE VERDICT IN THE CHOLERA CASES, AND THE DIRECTORS OF THE POOR OF ST. PANCRAS.—On Wednesday a special meeting of the directors of the poor of St. Pancras took place at the new vestry-rooms; Mr. Churchwarden Healey in the chair.—Mr. Pitt read to the board the verdict of the coroner's jury in the case of Joseph John Carter, in which the jury strongly censured the board of directors for not having entered into a proper contract with Mr. Drouet in farming out the pauper children.—Mr. T. H. Smith complained of the reports and the comments in the public papers attacking the directors with regard to the children.—Mr. Baker said all that could possibly be raked up against the guardians had been done, whilst all that was in their favour had been omitted, by the journals.—Mr. Clarke observed that so far as the directors of the poor of St. Pancras were concerned, they had been exceedingly anxious to do all they could for the benefit of the pauper children; but what were the facts? The workhouse had become so overcrowded that they were compelled to fall back upon the practice adopted by other parishes, and farm out the children to create room for adult paupers, who were crowding upon them. They would have sent the children to Anbin's Asylum, but that gentleman had no room, and they were obliged to send them to Mr. Drouet's. Why, however, should the Poor-law Commissioners try and get out of the responsibility—(Hear)—when it was actually upon the representations of Mr. Tufnell and Mr. Hall, of the Poor-law Board, that the directors of St. Pancras were induced to send their girls to Tooting? They did not contend for price. They gave Mr. Drouet the price he asked; and if he had not fulfilled his contract, the blame rested with Mr. Drouet. On the motion of Mr. Brettingham, the following resolution was agreed to:—"That a committee be appointed to draw up a report for publication throughout the parish in answer to the verdict of the coroner's jury, and other allegations against the Board of Directors, detailing all the circumstances under which the board were compelled to farm out the pauper children with Mr. Drouet."

BROMPTON HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, &c.—On Wednesday evening, a full meeting of the Board of Management was held at the above institution, Dr. Dixon in the chair. Considerable anxiety appears to exist in relation to the completion of the building and the erection of the chapel for the use of the patients and officers of the institution. The still increasing number of applicants for in-door relief has become fearfully oppressive, while the out-door patients keep the medical staff in constant requisition. The eighth annual report will be read at the forthcoming anniversary dinner, at which Benjamin D'Israeli, Esq., M.P., will preside.

LEICESTER-SQUARE SOUP-KITCHEN.—We understand that from 1100 to upwards of 1200 poor persons are relieved daily at the Leicester-square soup kitchen, chiefly at the expense of its warm-hearted treasurer; *ex gr.*, 1220 on Saturday last, 1131 on Monday, and 1273 on Tuesday. We regret to learn that, unless efficient assistance from the benevolent be speedily contributed, this daily supply must be limited to an average tithe of the above numbers; so that hundreds of destitute and forlorn creatures must of necessity pass the day without food of any kind.

TOOTING CHOLERA CASES.—The medical officers of the Board of Health have been directed to visit all pauper institutions where children of tender age are brought up, with the view of ascertaining their condition and general treatment. No death from cholera has occurred for some days at Tooting. The fears, too, which took possession of the minds of the people in that village and its neighbourhood, have subsided. The only parties who are now chiefly suffering inconvenience and loss from the outbreak of the disease are the proprietors of boarding-schools. The pupils were nearly all taken away by their parents and guardians during the prevalence of the disease, and it is feared they will not be sent back for some time to come.

FOREIGN WATCHES SOLD AT THE CUSTOM-HOUSE.—Early last year 325 watches were seized from being entered at too low a value, and paid for with the addition of 10 per cent., as usual in these cases. They were subsequently entered for sale as gold watches in the usual manner, catalogue printed, and exhibited with the other goods for sale. It was then discovered that they were not gold, but metal so well gilt as to deceive any but those very conversant with the business, and in consequence withdrawn. They have again been brought forward in the present year, and are entered in the catalogue as merely watches, but with prices attached upon which the advances are to be made, quite as high as though they were gold watches. The clocks are lotted singly, and the watches in pairs, for the accommodation of private persons. Formerly the watches were sold in lots of 12 each lot, and they were purchased by the trade to sell again.

THE FIRE IN NEW SQUARE, LINCOLN'S-INN.—During Saturday, the work of clearing the ruins was continued, and towards the evening the firemen, under the direction of head-engineer Loder, succeeded in turning up a parchment package, not in the least degree injured, which, upon examination, proved to be the title-deeds of an estate, left in Messrs. Jones, Bennett, and Bateman's care, amounting to £27,000. A mortgage deed of £10,000 has also been recovered, quite unharmed; and another of £12,000 has been found in the ruins, together with a vast number of smaller amounts. The whole of the original wills also left with the same firm have likewise been recovered from the rubbish; and securities, involving some thousand pounds' worth of property, have been taken from the basement and ground-floors, where they had fallen from the upper part of the house. A great deal of plate, and other articles of value, have been found by the parties while searching the ruins.

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN THE BOROUGH.—About two o'clock on Wednesday morning a fire, attended with great loss, happened on the premises of Mr. Hogg, hat-manufacturer, Latham-place, near St. George's Church. It originated in the factory, over which was a sleeping-room, and Mrs. Hogg, having been awoke by the bed-room being filled with smoke, alarmed her husband. Escape at the bottom of the house was impossible, and they dropped from the first-floor window. At the back of the factory was a quantity of gunpowder; and the inhabitants of Latham-place, fearing an explosion, left their homes for safety; but a plentiful supply of water was obtained, which enabled the firemen to confine the loss to the hat-factory. Insured in the Hand-in-Hand and Phoenix.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS, &c.—The return of the births and deaths registered in London during the week ending Saturday, Jan. 20, states the number of births as 1528, and the number of deaths as 1345. From this latter statement it appears that a rate of mortality prevails considerably above the average of the five previous winters, the excess being 176. As compared, however, with the return of the preceding week, there is a decrease of 103—a fact which the Registrar-General notices in connexion with the mean temperature of the air, which rose during the period from 39° to 47°. Of the deaths registered in the return, 393 were from zymotic diseases, being 172 above the average. From dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat, the deaths were 51, the average being 54; tubercular diseases 155, average 203; diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves, and senses, 136, average 141; diseases of the heart and bloodvessels 55, average 40; diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration 300, average 243; diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion, 68, average 67; diseases of the kidneys 15, average 13; child-birth, &c., 14, average 9; rheumatism, &c., 7, average 7; malformation 1, average 3; premature birth 24, average 23; atrophy 23, average 15; age 59, average 73; sudden 13, average 14; violence, privation, and intemperance, 20, average 37. In the details of these items it is stated, that of men and women at the age of 60 and upwards, 307 sunk under disease or the weight of years, or about 100 more than died weekly before the cold weather set in at the beginning of this month. The deaths caused by bronchitis and pneumonia were 248, and exceed the winter average by 67. Small-pox was fatal to 30 persons, or 9 more than the average; scarlatina to 87, the average being 32; typhus to 68, the average being 42; whooping-cough to 58, the average being 42. The mortality from measles, which was fatal in only 8 cases, is less than one-third of the average. The deaths from diarrhoea and dysentery were 28, which is more than usual at this season of the year; from cholera 62, of which 27 occurred in Mr. Drouet's establishment—6 among children who had been removed from it, and 29 amongst other inhabitants of the metropolitan districts. A man died in the sub-district of Rotherhithe of "fever from cold and poor living," according to medical certificate.

INQUEST ON THE TOOTING CHOLERA CASES.—VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.

The inquest on the four children who died in the Free Hospital, on being removed from Mr. Drouet's establishment, was resumed on Tuesday, before Mr. Wakley, at the Globe Tavern, Derby-street, Gray's-inn-road. At the suggestion of the foreman of the jury, Joseph Saunders—an inmate of the union workhouse, who had had charge of the children brought there on the previous Friday for examination—stated, in reply to questions put to him, that, after the examination, Mr. Drouet had said to one of the children, "As for you, you lying young scoundrel, you'll be taken notice of before the night is over." The child's name was Henry Hartshorne, and he had been one of the witnesses who had just been under examination.

The Coroner remarked, that, if the child had not been examined, such conduct on the part of Mr. Drouet might have been construed into a contempt of court. But, the child having been examined, no threat seemed to have been held out so as to tamper with the evidence. Mr. Drouet certainly acted most improperly. He (the Coroner) did not see that it was necessary to pursue the matter further. The Foreman of the Jury said he was very glad he had called the Coroner's attention to the subject, and that it had been investigated, for it had been magnified tenfold.

Evidence by the nurses of the establishment at Tooting (which was somewhat favourable to Mr. Drouet), together with some medical testimony as to the nature of the disease, was then gone into at much length; but the statements were of the same character as those already published. The only feature of novelty was the evidence of one of the medical gentlemen, which went to show that the "Tooting malady" was not cholera. His statement is of much interest.

Mr. W. Marsden, one of the surgeons of the Royal Free Hospital, examined.—I attended Michael Harper and all the boys that were taken ill. I gave their complaint the name of the Tooting malady, and I have seen nothing since to alter my opinion. A species of asphyxia I have named it. I do not consider that the children have had cholera.—Coroner: What are your reasons for coming to that conclusion?—Dr. Marsden proceeded to read his reasons, which were to the effect that at Tooting the locality was low and damp; and at the time of the outbreak a N.E. wind bore down a London atmosphere, which must have vitiated the locality. The residence was inadequate to the numbers contained in it. The diet contained too little solid matter, and far too much fluid.—Examination continued: I examined the children on their arrival at the hospital, and found the abdomen large, limbs spare, and complexion pale and sallow. I contrasted 25 of them with 25 of the Welsh School boys. The aggregate age of 25 Tooting children was 255 years, and of Welsh children 259. I had them weighed. The weight of the Tooting children was 1339 lb. 8 oz.; of the Welsh children 1516 lb. 12 oz., giving a balance in favour of the Welsh boys of 177 lb. 4 oz. Measuring across the thick part of the arms, the Tooting boys gave an aggregate of 1613 inches, the Welsh children 1794, giving 181 inches in favour of the Welsh children. The next part of the measurement is of the greatest importance. The Tooting boys measured in the aggregate 595 inches round the abdomen, while the Welsh children measure only 567. From this condition of the children I infer their previous mode of living. Whenever we find that children are fed mainly on fluids beyond a certain age, we also find that their bellies grow large and their limbs waste. If a child is kept too long at the breast, it is sure to perish. With the assistance of a surveyor, I measured the wards, and found them to contain 196,785 cubic feet; from which if you deduct the space occupied by the beds and children, it leaves 186,870 feet of respirable air, being only 136 feet to each child, or as much as might be contained in a box 5 feet 2 inches square. When the windows are closed, this is the sole quantity for each child during the night. The number of beds is 612, and 77 of them are intended to hold three children each. The total number of children allotted to the beds was 1301. Now, it is presumed that persons consume about 266 cubic feet of air in the 24 hours, so that the children would require 133 feet each in the dormitories. They had 126½ feet, and this, without a current, would not be sufficient for more than eight hours' consumption, inasmuch as each expiration of breath contains 4 per cent. of carbonic acid gas, while ten per cent. is sufficient to destroy life. The witness entered into similar details with respect to the school-rooms, from which he inferred that the impurity of the atmosphere was sufficient to produce disease without epidemic influences. He instanced the case of the Black Hole at Calcutta, the Scotch case of the children in the corn-bin, and affirmed that carbonic acid gas would produce symptoms precisely similar to those of cholera. The Royal Maternity Hospital in Dublin received 7700 children in four years, and out of that number 2792 died of a disease similar to that of the Tooting children. An inquiry was instituted, and it was ascertained that the mortality had arisen from want of ventilation. On a change being made in that particular, the mortality ceased. In the Grotto del Cane, at Naples, the mephitic vapour produces symptoms exactly like those of cholera. I distinguish the Tooting disease from cholera for these reasons. The great signs of real cholera are incessant thirst and incessant vomiting and purging. On its last visitation, it only visited one in six hundred under twenty years of age. In the Tooting malady, there was not any serious vomiting or purging.—After some further statements of a strictly medical character, the witness stated his firm conviction that the Tooting malady had none of the symptoms of Asiatic cholera. Witness, in conclusion, attributed the Tooting disease mainly to a vitiated atmosphere. In answer to further questions, he said: "I mean the vitiated atmosphere generated within the building. I do not think the external atmosphere had anything to do with it. The children were breathing an atmosphere so mephitic, from the amount of carbonic acid gas, as to be almost deadly. Finally, I attribute the disorder, first, to improper diet; secondly, insufficiency of clothing; thirdly, low temperature; and, lastly, the generally humid state of the atmosphere. These are predisposing causes, and the immediate cause was the poisonous atmosphere breathed by the children."

Another medical witness stated his belief that the disease was cholera. The Coroner having ably summed up the evidence, commenting severely on the conduct of the visiting guardians in making such very superficial investigations as to the treatment the children received at Tooting, and their reports of approval and satisfaction on that score without sufficient grounds, the Jury, after an hour's deliberation, returned the following verdict:—

"We, the jury, impelled to inquire touching the death of James Andrews, unanimously agree to the following verdict, which is, that Peter Drouet is 'Guilty of Manslaughter,' and that the guardians of the Holborn Union have acted most negligently in their engagement with Mr. Drouet, also, in their visits to his establishment; and we regret that the Poor-law Act is insufficient for the purposes for which it was intended, and hope the time is not far distant when the necessity for such establishments as Mr. Drouet's will entirely cease."

The Coroner: I should finish from my duty if I were to refrain from expressing my opinion that your verdict is strictly just, and that, if I had been a jurymen, my verdict would have been the same.

Foreman: The opinion of the jury is unanimous, that Mr. Winch (the guardian examined at last week's sitting) has done his duty, so far as lay in his power, in bringing this case before us.

MEDICAL USES OF GUN-COTTON.—Among the many curious and interesting applications of science which constantly greet us, the application of the destructive gun-cotton to the alleviation of suffering humanity is not the least interesting. Gun-cotton dissolved in ether has for some time been very successfully employed as an application to incised wounds. When washed over the surface, the ether, rapidly evaporating, leaves behind a film which is impervious to air; and thus the wound, protected from atmospheric influence, heals by the first intention. But now we find this curious compound employed successfully in the cure of the toothache. The cavity of the tooth being cleaned out, a little asbestos saturated with collodion, as it is called, to which a little morphia is added, is placed in it. All soon becomes solid, and thus an excellent stopping and a powerful anodyne are applied at the same time.—*Athenaeum*.



SHERE SINGH, BODY GUARD, AND SIKH TROOPS.

THE WAR IN THE PUNJAUB.

(Continued from page 53.)

after our destination was confirmed, and the enemy was stated to be in position in our front.

"At 7 o'clock A.M. we reached Ramnuggur, and saw the enemy and their camp in the distance; at half-past 7 o'clock the 3rd Dragoons (Holmes's), irregulars, and the artillery, were pushed forward with her Majesty's 61st Regiment in skirmishing order, and we, with the 5th Cavalry and some Native Infantry, were ordered to halt on the right of the city, with the 2nd Europeans a little on the left rear. A few minutes after the enemy opened their fire. This continued about an hour, during which time we stood inactively admiring their shot and shells as they flew through or burst in the air.

"At about half-past 8 A.M. our guns had got into position and began replying to the enemy, when the order came for us to advance, which we did, and were halted about three-quarters of a mile from where the enemy's picquet had been. Their picquet tents were still standing on an intrenched piece of ground, but their picquet had retired across the river.

"The round shot now began to whistle near us, generally falling short, and the men to get excited, when, about 9 A.M., the order came for us to move more to the left, and get shelter from a top of trees nearer to and more in front of the enemy's guns. Here we saw the 3d Dragoons, who were more than a mile on our left, charging some Sikh cavalry, who, retiring before them, opened out and dispersed the moment they drew the 3rd within range of their batteries, which

immediately opened on them. One man was killed and three wounded by the fire, while several horses suffered. A staff officer sent by Lord Gough ordered them to retire immediately out of fire, as the guns were on the other side of the river. While doing so, a 9-lb. shot struck Captain Oury's horse, passing clear through him, but the rider fortunately escaped. In a few moments after the horse was stripped by the Sikh cavalry, who pressed on their rear, trying again to draw them under fire. During all this time the round shot were flying over and through the 14th Dragoons, and, strange to say, doing no harm. A little after 11 A.M. the enemy's cavalry came across the nullah that protected part of their front, and formed upon the left bank, to the right front of the 14th, in great force, when the 14th Dragoons and 5th Cavalry received orders to charge them.

"Before saying anything of this charge, I must try to describe the Sikh position. The Sikhs, to the number of 30,000 men, occupied the right bank of the Chenab, where they had a strong entrenched camp with several batteries erected. A little to the right front of Ramnuggur the river formed a bend; in it was an island containing a couple of acres of ground, and between that and the left bank the water was about thirty yards wide, with a precipitous fall from the left bank of from four to six feet before you got into its bed, which was in some parts four feet deep. This part is called the nullah, as the main branch of the river is on the right of the island; it is as nearly as possible in front of the centre of the Sikh position. On it were about 4000 men and a battery of six guns, while the approach to it was swept by a cross fire from two batteries on the main-land. Knowing nothing of this position, and deeming the nullah the river the 14th,

when ordered to charge, galloped on to the enemy's cavalry, who retired through the nullah on to the island, while the enemy's batteries opened their fire, and their infantry on the island poured in their volleys. Colonel Havelock, cheering, led on the 1st and 2d squadrons of the 14th down to the bank, then into the nullah; crossed it at a gallop, and sabred hundreds of the enemy under the most frightful shower of missiles from their cannon and matchlocks. They then retired a short distance, formed up, were joined by the other squadrons and the 5th Cavalry, who had crossed a little higher up, and charged again. In this, the second charge, Colonel Havelock met his death, it was supposed, for he was not seen or heard of after. Many had fallen by this time, and more were falling, when they again retired, formed up, and charged under the command of Colonel King, for the third and last time. During this charge General Cureton joined them, with orders to retire, as, though the 14th seemed so determined to destroy the enemy, they were utterly indifferent to their own loss. The Commander-in-Chief having cleared the left bank of the enemy, did not wish for more. While he was giving the order to retire, a matchlock-ball struck General Cureton in the throat, and another in the forehead; and thus fell this glorious man, the finest cavalry officer of the day, at the head of that regiment in which, as a private soldier, under the assumed name of Roberts, he had commenced his career, and out of which he received his first commission.

"The 14th then retired in order, formed up, and the roll was called, when 45 men of the 14th were found missing, and about 50 horses. Of the missing men 14 were killed, and the remainder wounded. One of the killed, Sergeant Todd, had his head taken off by a round shot. Colonel Havelock has not yet been



HUZZARENS' FIRING WITH JUZAPELS.

found. The last seen of him was in the second charge, while he was crossing the nullah. His orderly states that both the Colonel and his horse fell wounded or killed, that he was hurried on, and did not see him after.

"About 12 of the 5th Cavalry suffered, I am told; and one of the first round shot fired at the charging regiments took off the arm of Colonel Alexander, who commanded them.

"Nothing could exceed the accuracy of the enemy's fire; their range was beautifully taken for certain points, showing that they must have discovered them previous to our advance; and our artillery officers say they never saw anything finer than the way their Horse Artillery were brought up to the edge of the river, and formed up. No nation could exceed them in the rapidity of their fire. It is said that a Frenchman, late an officer in the Maharajah Runjeet Singh's service, and aide-de-camp to General Avitabile, named L'Enfant, commands them. No men could act more bravely than the Sikhs. They faced us the moment we came on them, firing all the time; and, when we did come on them, some opened out and immediately after closed round us, while others threw themselves on their faces or turned their backs, protected by a shield from the stroke of the Dragoon sabre, and the moment that was given, turned round, hamstringing the horse, and shot the rider, while their individual acts of bravery were the admiration of all. Many stood before a charging squadron, and singled out a man, after killing or wounding whom they themselves were cut down immediately; while many, before their blows could take effect, received the point of a sabre, and fell in the act of making a cut.

"Amongst our officers, Captain Gall's personal courage was most conspicuous. He took single-handed one of the enemy's standards, but, before he could get assistance, he was knocked over, and his right hand nearly severed from his body; some of his men, however, rushed to his rescue, and saved him from receiving a mortal wound, though they could not again recover the standard which he had so hardly fought and suffered for.

"After Captain Gall was knocked over, a young cornet, named Durham Blythe, rode at the head of the troop, and while charging saw Lieutenant Macmahon fall wounded a little way off, and a Sikh rushing forward to kill him. Cornet Blythe galloped forward, gave point, and sent his blade clean through the Sikh. On three different occasions afterwards he rushed out from his troop, and each time, in single combat, killed his man. Many private soldiers performed wonders. But I must not omit to mention, that after Captain Fitzgerald fell, Captain Wilmer's troop was passing on their return, when they saw he was alive. Captain Wilmer and four troopers dismounted, and succeeded in bringing him in under the most frightful fire. All agree in one thing, that, however nobly the 14th gained their laurels in the Peninsula, no charge they ever made could surpass this in gallantry, and yet not more than four or five of the officers and men had ever been under fire previously. It is impossible to say what loss the enemy sustained; but had the 14th not been broken by jumping into the nullah, more than half the regiment must have been destroyed, so severe was the fire, as all the shot, had they charged in close order, would have taken effect.

"I have heretofore omitted saying anything of Colonel King, as he had little to do beyond assisting to keep the men together and obey orders until Colonel Havelock was killed. From the moment, however, his loss was known, Colonel King took up the command, and ably did he carry on the duties that were entrusted to him. To his coolness and judgment the men attribute their final success in the third charge, and to his watchful care the greater number of the wounded that were brought in owe their safety. Officers and men agree that his admirable conduct on that occasion proves him an able successor.

"Lord Gough visited the wounded yesterday, and expressed himself to each in the kindest terms about his injuries, and with the strongest praise of his brave conduct.

"As I conclude this we are erecting batteries, and expecting to be joined by Brigadier Wheeler's force, and two regiments of Eckford's brigade, that remained behind at Lahore.

"The enemy are about being reinforced by Chuttur Singh, who has 40,000 men and about 60 guns with him; and report says they will try to turn our rear; but we only wish that, as the men are all in high spirits, and determined to show them no quarter.

"The enemy's guns never cease firing; we are continually having their round shot bowling into us, but doing little damage."

Another writer observes:—"An attempt will doubtless be made to cast some blame upon the Commander-in-Chief for the result of these two affairs, but not justly. The facts are, that General Cureton ordered, in the first instance, both movements; and, if they had been carried out as he had wished, they would have been attended with the happiest results; but, on both occasions, mistakes in the execution, to a great degree unavoidable, marred the original plan. In both cases the ardour of our troops was too great. It was a rush who should get at the enemy first; but it must have been most gratifying to the Commander-in-Chief to witness the brilliant conduct of the regiments engaged, and the intrepidity with which they were led by their officers."

The following is a correct account of our loss:—

Killed: Brigadier-General Cureton shot through the heart; Colonel Havelock, 14th Dragoons, missing, but subsequently found killed; Captain Fitzgerald, 14th Dragoons, killed.



THE LATE BRIGADIER-GENERAL CURETON, C.B.—FROM A PICTURE BY WILLIAM BRADLEY.

Wounded: Lieutenant Hardinge, Aide-de-Camp, shot through the shoulder; Captain Scudamore, 14th Dragoons, sabred in the face; Captain Gall, ditto, wounded in the hand; Lieutenant Macmahon, ditto, shot through the head; Lieutenant Chetwynd, spent ball in the side, 14th Dragoons; 3 privates killed, 9 missing, 23 wounded, 5 contused; 25 horses wounded, 34 missing.

3rd Light Dragoons: 5 privates wounded.

5th Light Cavalry: Quartermaster-Sergeant killed by a round shot, which first took off the arm of Colonel Alexander, and then contused the foot of Lieutenant Kelly; 12 privates killed, 15 ditto wounded; 40 horses killed and wounded.

8th Light Cavalry: Subadar Major killed.

12th Irregular Cavalry: Captain Holmes wounded.

Horse Artillery: 1 private wounded, 2 syces killed, 4 horses killed.

Taught by the result of this conflict on the 22nd, the Sikhs no longer dared to cross the ford, as they had previously done, or to attempt seriously to molest our camp. The artillery got up on the 30th; and before 48 hours had elapsed, thanks to the noble exertions of some of her Majesty's troops (especially the 29th Foot), three powerful batteries had been erected along the river at the most favourable positions, each within 1200 yards of the enemy's camp. The batteries opened fire, were subsequently pushed nearer, and, simultaneously with these measures, the operations which ended in the retreat of the Sikh army were undertaken. Those operations consisted chiefly of a well-planned diversion, conducted by Major-General Sir J. Thackwell, whose division was subsequently supported by a second body of troops.

The Sikh army, which amounted to 30,000 men, with a park of heavy artillery, had their attention engaged at the main ford, near Ramnuggur, by the forces under the Commander-in-Chief, while Sir J. Thackwell crossed the Chenab, with some regiments of cavalry and horse-artillery, at Wuzeratad, 25 miles above Ramnuggur (the position of the British camp), intending to fall on the enemy's flank, and to attack their lines simultaneously with the passage of the river and attack by storm from the main position under Lord Gough. The enemy's attention had previously been almost solely directed, and not without reason, to the preparations which had been going forward for some days in the British camp for the erection of batteries to cover the passage of the river, and to overpower the enemy's guns. It was this fact, as well as the unsuccessful issue of an attempt immediately made by a strong division under Shere Singh himself (on the 3rd of December) to arrest Thackwell's progress—resulting in a decided de-

feat on their part—and also the completeness of the force with which the flank movement, when at length it had declared itself, was conducted, that caused the diversion to be regarded by the Sikhs (who were justly apprehensive of a joint attack on their front, flank, and rear) as the signal for their retreat, which they effected on the night of the 3rd, carrying off with them their artillery, ammunition, and baggage. In all these affairs our killed and wounded have been about 400, while the enemy lost about 4000.

We have accounts from Goomsoor reporting fresh disturbances in that district. On the night of the 7th of November, a body of Chokra Bissye's partisans plundered and burned the village of Kontadoro. On the 11th, Captain M'Vicar proceeded to Chokapaud, with two companies of the 18th N. I., and Colonel Campbell proceeded to the hills on the 13th, also with an escort of two companies of the 18th, and a party of Sepoys. Chokra Bissye sent a letter to the people of Ganjam, threatening the destruction of their property, which induced them to call a meeting on the 14th; two or three thousand persons were present, and they petitioned the Government that steps might be taken to protect them from the outrages of the rebels.

By the latest advices received in Bombay, Lord Gough had crossed the Chenab with his camp some ten miles. There is no news of the fall of Mooltan. The last division of the Scinde field force left Sukkur on Nov. 20.

There is intelligence of the investment of Attock, in which was Lieut. Herbert, by a large body of the Sikhs on November 20.

Major Lawrence and his family had been given up to Chuttur Singh by the chief with whom he had taken refuge at Kohat, and who owed to him his fortunes. Chuttur, it is said, treated his prisoners with every mark of respect, although, of course, they were strictly watched in his camp.

The Governor-General was to leave Umballah on the 9th of December, in progress to Loodianah; and Captain Larkins, the deputy-commissioner, was to meet his Lordship at Kana-keraia.

Brigadier Wheeler, who is at the head of a strong force in the Reechna Doab, has achieved a victory over the rebels at a place called Hillawalla (or Khuleelwalla), where two brothers, Chunda and Goordut Singh, have been recently creating disturbances.

In the Jullundur Doab disturbance has likewise prevailed. The treasury at Hosbearpore was recently attacked and robbed by a party of Sikhs, under Ram Singh, and some 20,000 rupees carried off. At Jullundur itself, the garrison, consisting of the 7th Native Infantry only, were in great fear of an attack, and the treasure had been removed to camp, and entrenchments thrown up for its protection.

At Lahore all was quiet. The garrison consisted of some six thousand men, and another corps of irregular cavalry was expected to reinforce them. Guns were being placed in position on the walls of the citadel.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The first Engraving upon the opposite page shows Shere Singh, with his body-guard, and a group of Sikh troops; the Portrait of Shere Singh being from Major Lawrence's popular "Adventures."

In the second Engraving, we have a view of Perganeh, near Istail, with a party of Huzzarehs firing with juzzafels, or matchlocks, which proved so unerring in the late conflict. This scene is copied from one of Captain Lock Willis Hart's very clever "Sketches in Afghanistan and the Punjab."

BRIGADIER-GENERAL CURETON, C.B.

CHARLES ROBERT CURETON, whose brilliant military career terminated so gloriously in the late sanguinary conflict in the Punjab, enlisted originally as a private, under the assumed name of Roberts, in the 14th Dragoons. This was in the year 1808, when the young soldier proceeded forthwith to the Peninsula, and served to the close of the war, being engaged in the battles of Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Salamanca, Vittoria, Orthez, Tarbes, and Toulouse, and at the siege of Badajoz and the capture of Madrid. The daring gallantry of Cureton, which exposed him always in the hottest of the fight, and resulted in several severe wounds. He was wounded in the right leg by a rifle-ball on crossing the Mondego, near Coimbra, October 1, 1810; at the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, in May, in the following year, he received a severe sabre cut on the head and another on his rein-hand. In February, 1814, he was promoted to an ensigncy in the 14th Dragoons, without purchase, in consideration of his gallant behaviour and services. Subsequently he went to the East Indies, and was there employed for a period of nearly thirty years. He served under Lord Combermere at the siege of Bhurtpore, in 1825-26, and added to his reputation by the ability and courage he displayed. He had then attained, by purchase, to the rank of Captain.

He served as Assistant-Adjutant-General of Cavalry in the campaign in Afghanistan, under Lord Keane, in 1839-40, and was present at the assault and capture of Ghuznee (medal); was specially selected to command the advance column of the army on its route through the Bolan Pass, and entrance into Afghanistan; and was also selected to command a force of cavalry detached in



DEATH OF BRIGADIER-GENERAL CURETON, IN THE SKIRMISH NEAR RAMNUGGUR.

advance of the army to seize the enemy's guns, and to secure possession of the citadel.

In 1845, on the outbreak of the Sikh war, the gallant officer, then Lieutenant-Colonel, was called upon to take active service in the eventful campaign that followed. At Aliwal and Sohraon he commanded the cavalry corps, and participated, in no inconsiderable degree, in the glory of those famous victories. "In Brigadier Curzon" (we are quoting Sir Harry Smith's official despatch) "her Majesty has one of those officers rarely met with: the cool experience of the veteran soldier is combined with youthful activity. His knowledge of the outpost duty, and the able manner in which he handles his cavalry under the heaviest fire, rank him among the first cavalry officers of the age." For these services, Lieutenant-Colonel Curzon was promoted to a full Colonelcy, made a Companion of the Bath, and appointed Aide-de-Camp to the Queen. He also received the important office of Adjutant-General of the Bengal Army, which had been previously held by Sir Harry Smith. All that remains to be added is, that Brigadier-General Curzon accompanied Lord Gough's army to the Punjab, and, in the discharge of his duty, met with an honourable death, at the head of the very regiment in which he had obscurely commenced the life of his choice, in which he had received the first public reward of his valour, and with which his services and his renown were unchangeably identified.

The following order has been issued:—

GENERAL ORDER TO THE ARMY OF THE PUNJAB.

"Head-quarters, Camp Ramnuggur, Nov. 23, 1848.
"Aware of the general esteem and respect in which Brigadier-General Curzon was held by officers of all ranks who have enjoyed an opportunity of serving under his command, or been associated with him either on duty or in private life, the Commander-in-Chief invites all so disposed to be in attendance, to pay the last honours to this excellent officer, whose decease no officer in the army can more deeply lament than Lord Gough himself."—*Mofussilite*, Dec. 5.

The accompanying Portrait is from a fine profile in oil, by William Bradley, in the possession of Mr. T. H. Illidge, of Bruton-street, to whose courtesy we are indebted for permission to engrave the same.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The specification of this patent is at length finished; and a careful perusal of the document affords matter for grave consideration, as, unfortunately, it is but a sample of the numerous specifications of absolute impossibilities which we are afraid too frequently exist amongst the parchments of the Enrolment-office.

In our former notices of the Electric Light, we showed that success or failure would depend upon the cost of the production of the voltaic power; therefore, we shall confine our attention to those parts of the specification which appertain to its economic production.

"To economise the products, when zinc is employed, I add (says the patentee), in a separate vessel, to the solution of sulphate of zinc a solution of sesquicarbonate of ammonia, which precipitates the oxide of the zinc metal, and releases the acid, which may be used again." Our readers, doubtless, will think that there is some mistake in this paragraph; that it is either misquoted or misprinted; but we regret to state that it actually exists in the patent. We need hardly state, that every schoolboy, where chemistry is taught, knows that it would be impracticable to set free sulphuric acid by such means.

Again, the patentee speaks of using platinised plates of lead, or other metal, as the source of power. Now, the effect of adding platinum to the lead, or other metal, would be to increase local action, which would not in any manner contribute to the general power of the battery. Lead, moreover, as a positive pole, gives rise to a current of but very feeble intensity, and one, perhaps, quite inapplicable for the evolution of light.

In the specification, a considerable space is dedicated to the description of a perfumery battery, where the exciting fluid passes from cell to cell. This arrangement is, perhaps, the very worst which could possibly be adopted by the electrician for a compound battery, as every cell would possess a fluid of different exciting power; and the terminal cells, if his intentions were carried out, would become precipitating troughs instead of battery cells—a state which the electrician always carefully prevents.

For the generation of voltaic power, or its economic production, we regret to state that there is not one single addition to our stock of knowledge; but throughout, the patent contains statements in direct violation of electrical and chemical laws. All hope of an extensive application of the Electric Light must now be abandoned; but still we shall rejoice if it can be employed as a special mode of illumination on great public occasions.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

MRS. HOWARD, OF CORBY CASTLE.

CATHERINE-MARY, widow of Henry Howard, Esq., of Corby Castle, in Cumberland, and second daughter of Sir Richard Neave, Bart., of Dagnam Park, Essex, died on the 16th inst., in her 79th year. Her loss is severely felt and lamented. The issue of her marriage with the late estimable Mr. Howard consists of two sons and three daughters: viz. Philip-Henry, M.P. for Carlisle; Henry-Francis, a diplomatist; Catherine, married to the Hon. Philip Stourton; Emma-Agnes, wife of Lord Petre; and Adeline-Maria, married to her cousin, Henry Petre, Esq., of Dunkinhalgh.

The Howards of Corby are a distinguished branch of the ducal house of Norfolk, deriving from Lord William Howard, renowned in Border minstrelsy as "beloved Will." The beautiful demesne of Corby, with its castle on the summit of a precipitous cliff overhanging the east side of the river Eden, attracts the admiration of every beholder. Hume, the historian, when on a tour through Cumberland, wrote on a pane of glass in the Old Bush Inn, Carlisle, these lines:—

Here chicks, in eggs for breakfast, sprawl,
Here goddess boys God's glories squall,
While Scotsmen's heads adorn the wall,
But Corby's walks atone for all.

The late Mr. Howard of Corby, whose widow is the subject of this brief notice, died 1st March, 1842, in the enjoyment of the highest reputation for piety, patriotism, and virtue, and was not less distinguished by his courtesy and kindness than by his literary attainments and his correct taste.

COAST OF AFRICA.—Private letters just received from the coast of Africa state that Lieutenant-Governor Winniett was preparing for a mission to the King of Ashantee. Captain Winniett will be the first Lieutenant-Governor who has ever visited that warlike chief, and it is thought much good may be expected from his visit. The King is most anxious for his arrival, and great preparations are being made at Kennas for his reception. It is supposed the Lieutenant-Governor will be received by at least 35,000 men. This officer visited the King of Dahomey—the only Governor who ventured so far—and succeeded with that chief in executing a treaty of amity and commerce, the benefit of which is now being felt by the merchants at Whydah. He has also despatched an officer to the King with a treaty for the suppression of the slave trade in his dominions; and if it be accomplished, all the cruelties in the Bight may be removed. We find also that the Lieutenant-Governor has lately returned from leading an army of 6500 against a rebel chief of Apollonia, with complete success, which has thrown a beautiful country open to commerce that had been for many years completely shut up. He also relieved 120 prisoners of different tribes, whom the King had heavily ironed, and, in all probability, would have sacrificed at his next custom-making. The Lieutenant Governor has received a most flattering address from the magistrates, merchants, and others, residing on the Gold Coast.

REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVES.—There has been some excitement in the House of Representatives, in consequence of a disclosure recently made by a member, Mr. Greeley, in the columns of his own paper, the *Tribune*. He obtained access to the treasury records, and there ascertained how much the members were in the habit of receiving for each mile of their journey to and from Washington. This is allowed by law, in addition to their per diem allowance. The result, though anticipated by all who know anything about Congress, was rather astounding to the people at large. It was ascertained that the members generally made out their bills for the longest possible routes of travel, although they themselves took the shortest routes. Thus, a member from the West, who expended perhaps 200 dollars in journeying to Washington, might draw 2000 dollars for his expenses. Of course, this sort of peculation, sanctioned by long usage, and growing out of the real difficulty of reaching Washington before railways and steamers were common, had ceased to alarm the virtue of the greatest economist of the public money. When the facts came out, however, there was much squirming in the House.—*Correspondent of the Daily News*.

A JEWEL OF A WOMAN.—The editor of a Philadelphia paper takes notice of a lady at a late concert in that city, who had nineteen rings upon her fingers, thirteen bracelets of different descriptions upon her arms, which were bare to the shoulder and very handsome. Her hands were small, white, and beautiful. Some of the rings contained diamonds of large size, and whenever she moved her hand it appeared to be in a blaze of light. This gaily-decked lady was a subject of admiration to some, of envy to others, and of pity to a few. Her fan was expensive, and secured to her wrist by a heavy gold chain. She wore ear-rings and a breast-pin. Altogether she presented the appearance of a walking jewellery store, and so he regarded her as the most valuable woman, literally speaking, that he had ever seen.

ALGERIA.—The Commission of the Colonists of Algeria have just published several letters from the colonists, expressing their satisfaction at the provision made for their comfort by the Government, and their confidence, from what has already occurred, that they will be able to earn an honourable subsistence. Many of these colonists are so convinced of success, that they have invited the members of their families in Paris to join them. They state that their health is good, and that the climate is favourable.

The Earl of Northesk has intimated to all the tenants on his estates of Erchie and Luman, and in consequence of the present depressed state of the corn markets, he intends postponing the collection of his Candelmas rents till the month of April next, hoping that, ere that time, they may have disposed of their grain to better advantage than they possibly could do at present.

On Sunday morning, about ten o'clock, an extensive fall of the chalk rock from Shakspeare's Cliff, Dover, took place. The fall occurred near No. 4 shelf of the Shakspeare Tunnel, on the South-eastern Railway, and left an indentation in the crown of this classic cliff of something like an acre. The quantity of chalk detached may be estimated at about 100,000 tons.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Viridissime."—In taking a Pawn, in passing, you place your Pawn on the square which the adversary's would have occupied had he moved it one step only.

"F. F. G."—Describe the relative positions of the two Pawns on a diagram.

"A Scot."—Is thanked for his courtesy.

"H. W."—Isle of Wight.—It shall have a niche on the first vacancy.

"Woodstockiensis."—It was published about six weeks ago. Your Problems shall be examined; but, in general, they are much too carelessly constructed. To ensure correctness, you should keep a Problem by you for a month at least, and, during that period, submit it to rigid and repeated scrutiny.

"W. H. M."—Try one in fewer moves. The last, though very laboured, is very easy.

"J. K."—Glasgow.—It seems to us a very pretty idea. We shall be glad to receive the others promised.

"C. H."—Discoverable at a glance by the youngest players.

"A Pawn."—When you have more experience in Chess, you will hesitate to speak so positively of what can or cannot be done in any given position. We repeat that in Problem 251 it is not possible to mate in less than the stipulated number of moves, and, to repeat your own words, "this is so self-evident, that a mere tyro must comprehend it at once." Look at it once more.

"Legal Diary."—The correctness of your solution of Problem No. 258 was acknowledged last week.

"Maza."—One legibly drawn diagram, with the conditions briefly and explicitly stated, would have pleased us more. With a hundred and fifty other communications to examine, it is quite impossible for us, this week, to wade through an interminable series of diagrams and solutions such as those with which our well-meaning correspondent favours us.

"A Subscriber."—Huddington.—Thanks for the position. See the Chess-Player's Chronicle for February.

"J. W. B."—When a King is placed in check—but the fact is not observed by either party for several moves—it is always better to retract those moves, and for the party whose King is checked to remove him, or otherwise dispose of the check.

"L. F. C."—Too easy, a great deal.

"J. B."—There is nothing whatever problematical in such positions.

"F. H. D."—Bruges.—They shall have due attention; and we shall be glad to hear from you again.

"J. D. P."—The annual dinner of the Liverpool Chess Club (the Leviathan of the Provincial Chess Associations) is appointed to be held on Wednesday the 14th of February. Amateurs desirous of attending this interesting commemoration may obtain tickets up to Monday the 12th of February, by application to G. Spreckly, Esq., Hon. Secretary, Liverpool.

"J. F."—Get some rudimentary work on the game; with that and the assistance of a Chess-playing friend, you will speedily master all the difficulties of our notation in half an hour.

"M. U."—Ingenious and promising, although not difficult. It shall appear by-and-by.

"J. S. W."—Plymouth.—The solution of the first position named is as follows:—1. R to Q R sq. 2. B to Q R 2d. 3. B to Q 5th. 4. B takes P—Mate. We have already given the solution of Enigma No. 304. No. 349 is effected thus:—1. B to K B 6th. 2. B to K K 7th. 3. B to K B 8th. 4. B to Q 6th—Mate. And in No. 355, try the effect of playing R to Q 6th for the first move.

"J. Jersey."—See notice below to "Chess."

"F. T. T."—Guernsey.—You have failed in Enigma No. 404.

"A Constant Subscriber."—Our solution of Problem No. 257 is quite right. If the Black K takes the B at his second move, White plays 3. P to Q Kt 4th, and then mates with his Kt next move.

"Chess."—Having advanced a P to the extreme square of the board, you can claim any piece you please for it, without reference to the piece you already possess; so that you may have two or more Queens in play at the same time.

"F. G."—York.—The one in six moves was given among our Enigmas last week. The other can be solved in three moves easily.

"W. S."—Cavan.—The Queen stands on a square of her own colour at the beginning of the game.

"R. S. C."—The idea is ingenious, but the modus operandi much too apparent.

"W. H. C."—Cambridge.—We will try to find room for the amended solution next week, unless in the meantime you discover it. With respect to the first question, we agree with you; to the second, the player mentioned takes no part in the deliberations.

"A. J. H."—1st. Of the two foreign players named, we think the Frenchman the stronger. 2d and 3d. We cannot say. In your Problem (1) White can mate in one move, instead of taking five!

"S. L."—An easy mate in two, not three moves.

Solutions by "W. C. P.," "J. B. H.," "F. C. P.," "A. Scot.," "Ferdinand," "S. U.," "F. G. R.," "Otho," "H. C. S.," "Bath Duo," "J. G.," "Dumfries," "W. L.," "Jun.," "P. P.," "Sans Board," "R. S. C.," "R. H. T.," "S. A. G.," "J. H. N.," "M. U.," "M. E. R.," are correct.

"* C. W. R." will be happy to play a game at Chess by Correspondence with any Amateur who is desirous of meeting with an opponent. Address, Post-office, Kensington.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 261.

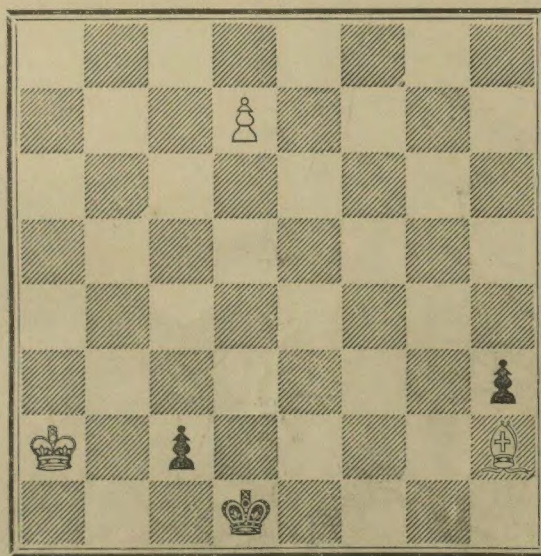
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to Q 8th (ch)	K to R 2d	4. R to Q 7th	Anything*
2. B to Q Kt 8th (ch)	K to R sq (best)	5. B to Q Kt 6th (ch)	
3. B to Q 7th (d ch)	K to R 2d		and mates next move with the Rook.

* If the K is played back to R sq, White may still play, 5. B to Q Kt 6th, and mate with his R next move.

PROBLEM NO. 262.

By Mr. HARRWITZ.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to move first, and win.

CHESS MATCH BY CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE LONDON AND AMSTERDAM CHESS CLUBS.

WHITE (Amsterdam).

BLACK (London).

Amsterdam to play.

The following smart little affair came off lately between the veteran Captain HARRY WILSON and the President of the Richmond Chess Club—the former giving the odds of Pawn and two moves.

(Remove Black's K B P from the Board.)

WHITE (Capt. P.)	BLACK (Capt. W.)	WHITE (Capt. P.)	BLACK (Capt. W.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3d	18. R to K R 3d	Kt takes B
2. P to Q 4th	P to K B 4th	19. P to K B 4th	B to Q 2d
3. B to Q 3d	P to Q B 4th	20. Q R takes Kt	P to Q 5th (c)
4. P to Q B 3d (a)	P to Kt B 3d	21. K R to B 3d	Kt to K B 4th
5. P to K 5th	P to Kt K 3d	22. Q R takes P	Q takes R (d)
6. K Kt to B 3d	P takes Q P	23. Q R takes B	Q to her B 3d
7. P takes P	B checks	24. Q to K Kt 5th	Kt to Q 5th
8. B to Q 2d	K Kt to K 2d	25. K to Kt 2d	R to K B sq
9. Castles	B takes B	26. Q to Kt 4th	Q takes R (ch)
10. Q takes B	Castles	27. K to Kt 3d	Kt takes Q
11. Q Kt to B 3d	Q to Kt K 3d	28. Q takes Q	P to K 4th
12. Q to K R 6th	Q takes Kt (b)	29. K takes Kt	P takes P
13. P takes R	Q takes Q P	30. Kt to Q 5th	R to Q sq
14. P R to Q sq	Q takes K P	31. P to Q Kt 4th	R to Q 7th (e)
15. K to R sq	P to Q 4th	32. Kt takes P	R to Q 5th
16. K R to Kt sq	Q to K B 3d	33. P to Q R 4th	
17. R to K Kt 3d	Kt to K 4th		And Black wins.

(a) Much better always to take the P at once.
(b) This Kt threatened to be troublesome, if he once got to his 5th.
(c) Just the moment to ensure the gain of one of the Rooks for a minor piece.
(d) Better than capturing the Q, since now he wins both time and position.
(e) In quest of simplicity.

LITERATURE.

THE KEEPSAKE, 1849. Edited by the Countess of Blessington. Bogue.

A charming portrait of the Lady Constance Gower forms the frontispiece to this superb volume, in addition to several other illustrations, selected and engraved under the superintendence of the late Mr. Charles Heath, who, if we mistake not, originated the high-priced Annual. In the roll of contributors are the Countess of Blessington, Mrs. S. C. Hall, Mrs. Romer, and Mrs. Newton Crossland (late Camilla Toulmin); Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Mr. Thackeray, Mr. Albert Smith, Dr. Beattie, Lord John Manners, R. M. Milnes, Esq., &c. The papers are playful and sparkling, alternately with serious and romantic adventure gathered during recent travel; and the volume is, altogether, a delightful accession to the drawing-room table.

ANECDOTES OF THE ARISTOCRACY, AND EPISODES IN ANCESTRAL STORY. By J. BERNARD BURKE, Esq. 2 vols. Colburn.

The Family History of Great Britain, abounds with strange and startling episodes and romantic adventure, even laying aside legend and tradition; whilst almost every great house has some strange event interwoven with its rise or greatness, or some calamity dimming the brilliancy of its achievements. Such form the staple of these two volumes. The narratives are carefully written, and selected with fitting taste: the scenes and incidents are very various, according as education, property, or politics, the charms of domestic life, the love of travel or war, actuate the heroes and heroines. The work is a sort of written gallery of family portraits and events, strongly marked with individual character, and vividly painted from first to last. The contents are more numerous than we have space to particularise, being some 150 narratives of rare chequer-work of human action. The book, we need scarcely add, must prove attractive to a large class of readers.

GEOLOGICAL AND MINERALOGICAL NOTES, TO ACCOMPANY MR. WYLD'S MAP OF THE GOLD REGION OF CALIFORNIA. Wyld.

This is a *fasciculus* of very useful and well-timed information upon the physical and civil geography of California. It is very comprehensive, and free, or very nearly free, from the "Dorado" and "Pactolus" phraseology in which the Americans write about the matter. We quote a section, which may be termed

HOW TO GET TO CALIFORNIA.

The ways to California from Europe are three: first, through the United States; second, across the Isthmus; third, around Cape Horn. 1. The first way is through Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, to the Ohio, and then up the heads of the Missouri, across the Rocky Mountains, to the Sacramento. The overland journey is of three months in a country without accommodation, beset with Indians, and in some places without food or water. Travellers go together in parties, carrying their goods in waggons, or on the backs of mules and horses. Travellers from England may go to New Orleans, and so up the Mississippi and Missouri. The people of Texas have a way by the Rio Bravo del Norte into New Mexico, then across the Rocky Mountains. 2. The second way is by the West India mail-steamers to Porto Bello or Chagres in the state of Ystmo, New Granada, and so by an overland journey of fifty miles or two days to Panama on the Pacific. A steamer is to be put on the Chagres river. The road between Chagres and Panama has been just repaired by the local authorities by means of a loan from the Royal Steam Navigation Company. The town of Chagres is the unhealthiest in the world, that of Panama tolerably good. At Panama the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamers arrive from Valparaiso and Callao. Here too is an American mail-steamer running to California once in six weeks, and after April next once a month. Passengers can therefore go on by this steamer, or by sailing-vessel, to California. This is reckoned a three months' journey, and is a very expensive one. Very little luggage can be carried. 3. The third way is by ship throughout from England to California, round Cape Horn, a six months' voyage. The English have a settlement in the Falkland Islands, near Cape Horn, which is likely to benefit by the increased trade to the Pacific. Passengers by sea may get round Cape Horn most readily by taking a berth for Valparaiso in Chili, for which many ships go out, bringing back copper-ore, guano, hides, and tallow, while ships for California must be chartered purposely. From Valparaiso passengers may get on either by coasting-vessels trading with California or by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamers to Panama, and thence, as said, by the American Government steamers to California.

THE ART OF ILLUMINATION AND MISAL PAINTING. By H. NOEL HUMPHREYS, Bohn.

The revival of Illumination, a beautiful branch of Middle Age art, has, we fear, been productive of comparatively little taste in the artists of the present day. It is one thing to copy, and another to become inspired with the genius of a master: our draughtsmen appear but to have succeeded in the former facile task; and even in this they have shown but little discrimination. Such is the opinion of Mr. Humphreys, which every-day remark among persons acquainted with the subject confirms.

The art of Illumination originated, very probably, soon after the rolled MSS. were superseded by books in the present form; that is, by a number of flat leaves sewn together at the backs. The rolled form of papyrus or parchment was altogether inconvenient for pictorial ornament: hence the unrolled treasures of Herculaneum and Pompeii bear no such embellishments; "whilst," says Mr. Humphreys, "some of the earliest MSS. of the new or book form, which was, probably, adopted about the second century of the Christian era, contain pictorial embellishments more or less rich. The Discordes in the library of Vienna, and the celebrated 'Virgil' of the Vatican, both said to be of the fourth century, may be cited as among the earliest examples of illuminated MSS., each being profusely enriched with pictorial illustrations, the style of decorative ornament being, however, very simple, and in the 'Virgil' altogether absent, whilst the miniatures are large and striking." Profuse decoration was not, however, uncommon at this period; for St. Jerome, in the fourth century, complained of the abuse of this art, in filling up books with decorative capital letters of enormous size, &c.

The best portion of the early Illumination was its miniature portraits; as the arts of Rome declined, this power of executing miniatures was lost, and the decorations luxuriated into mere ornament. In Gaul these ornaments took a Roman character, but so impure as to be styled Franco-Roman. In Italy a more Roman style prevailed; a sort of tradition of the graceful school of painting, of which we have examples in Pompeii. But in England, where the Roman arts had never been so fully developed as in Gaul, they nearly disappeared with the departure of the Romans at the beginning of the fifth century; and the rude Saxons who succeeded them in the domination of the island, received their inspirations of art from the rapidly advancing civilization of the Irish, who in the eighth century had attained a pitch of general refinement very far in advance of that of England. The style of art there developed was original, and was communicated to the arts of the Anglo-Saxons. A beautiful specimen of this style is preserved in Lambeth Palace, and this Mr. Humphreys has copied. From the seventh to the thirteenth century, ornament predominated over pictures; it reached extreme gorgeousness in the twelfth century: in the next, the drawing of the human figure, as well as of animals and birds, greatly improved; for these subjects began to be profusely used in the extra enrichment of the curiously interlaced initials, which, in the previous century, had been nearly confined to foliage. In the fourteenth century we have the origin of the illuminated border in the Gothic bracket or clip: "it arose, probably, from the long-tailed initials of the preceding century, which were frequently made to extend down the whole margin. In the fourteenth century, too, miniatures began to be interpolated, and increased in finish, splendour, and profusion, till the middle of the sixteenth century."

The Gothic bracket of this period consists of a *bordure* at top and bottom, and outer margin of the page, which was eventually entirely inclosed by it. It soon lost the bracket form, and with it all its purity, until it degenerated, in the 17th century, to the wretched style of Louis Quatorze, at which period book illumination, as an art, finally disappeared.

To the sketch of the progress of the art succeed analyses of the specimens Mr. Humphreys has selected, showing how they may be applied to modern practice. There is a curious chapter on the "Opus Anglicum" (English work), supposed to have been practised exclusively in England, in the tenth century, and from a specimen in the British Museum, to have been originated by St. Dunstan, who is known to have been a skilful goldsmith and illuminator.

It is difficult to convey an idea of the gorgeous, yet sometimes elegant character of the specimens selected. Nearly all are selected from old missals, and therefore contain in the border scenes from Scripture, in which the incidents are treated in scrupulous detail and miniature-like finish.

The work is altogether produced with great care, both as regards its illustrations and its bibliographical research. The volume is beautifully bound in white calf, most superbly illuminated and gilded.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION.—We regret to announce, by accounts from Mazatlan, under date Nov. 29, that her Majesty's surveying ship, *Herald*, 22, Captain Kellett, had arrived at that port from Behring's Straits, without having been able to obtain any intelligence of the expedition under Sir John Franklin.

THE FRENCH MAILS.—According to *Galvani's Messenger*, the following is the arrangement which has at present been come to by the Post-office authorities of Paris and London for the night mail. The letters will be conveyed from Calais to Dover and vice versa during the four winter months (Nov. 15 to March 15); during the other eight months they will be conveyed as heretofore, via Boulogne. Up to the 15th of March next the service hitherto carried on by Boulogne will take place at Calais, but the letters will be conveyed to and from Paris by the Boulogne Railway; for which purpose they will be transmitted to and from Boulogne and Calais by mail-car, the directors of the Boulogne Railroad having engaged to accelerate the service so as to prevent any delay in the arrival of the letters at Calais, and enable them to retard the departure of the train from Boulogne for the transmission of the Calais mail.

THE POPULATION OF THE AUSTRIAN EMPIRE.—The *Reforme Allemande* thus subdivides the 37,662,486 individuals who constitute the population of the Empire of Austria, viz.—7,819,275 Germans; 6,398,202 Czechs, Moravians, and Slovaks; 2,180,524 Poles; 3,069,132 Russians and Russians; 1,143,367 Slovenes and Wends, inhabiting Carniola; 1,270,355 Croats; 1,685,146 Servians, Chakats, Sclavonians, Dalmatians, and Istrians; 10,000 Bulgarians; 4,214,047 Hungarians and Magyars, 5,066,846 Italians; 359,511 Furlans; 8,642 Ladins; 2,630,278 Moldo-Wallachians; 97,000 Bohemians; 1,970 Albanians; 11,000 Greeks; 17,384 Armenians; and, in addition to this heterogeneous horde of "Turks, infidels, and heretics," no less than 740,256 Jews. The Austrian army amounts to 492,486 men, of whom 108,486 are Germans, 104,000 Czechs, 44,000 Hungarians, and 60,000 Italians.

MUSIC.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Wednesday.

On Friday night, at the Théâtre de l'Opéra (Académie Royale) was produced the new ballet *fantastique*, in two acts and six tableaux, entitled "Le Violon du Diable," by M. Saint Leon (the husband of Cerito), the music by M. Pogni, and the scenery by MM. Desplein and Thierry. The action is in Brittany. As the title indicates, it is the story of "Tartini" which has suggested to St. Leon to turn to account his powers as a violinist as well as those of a dancer. The ballet is constructed for himself, for without his executive facility as a player it could not be performed.

The incidents are of a very ancient date in ballad-history. There is the spirit of evil, a *Doctor Mathews* (Coralli), who has for antagonist a *Father Anselm* (Cornet); and these two agents combat for the soul of *Urbain* (St. Leon), who loves *Helene* (Cerito), the daughter of the *Count de Wardeck* (Lenfort), the latter opposing the union because *Urbain* is only a violinist. The demoniac *Doctor* charms an instrument to render *Urbain* irresistible, by making it superior to the best *Amati* or *Stradivarius*, and thus, with the bow of *Paganini*, *Helene* is won by *Urbain*. But the *Doctor* has not created the lyre of *Orpheus* for nothing; and, after *Urbain* has fiddled into the good graces of his *Helene*, the Demon demands the signature of the *virtuoso* to a little bond exacting his services in a certain place for eternity. *Urbain* declines this contract, and is then constrained to return his fiddle, preferring to lose his mistress rather than his soul. *Father Anselm* then intervenes, of course, and gives *Urbain* another fiddle, of angelic tone: thus St. Leon, who has, in the first act, been executing caricature freaks of a *Paganini*, pizzicato, staccato, &c., in the second act plays an adagio like a *De Beriot* or an *Allard*; in such style, in fact, that the *Count* relents, and gives his consent for the marriage of his daughter with *Urbain*. The ballet then concludes with a grand *fête* in the Salle des Spectacles of the *Count's* château.

This *fête* consists of a *divertissement* in a conservatory with bowers; and on colossal stands of dahlias, camellias, &c., are concealed *danseurs*, styled "Les Fleurs Animées," who are gallantly attended to by St. Leon in the garb of a gardener. This is a charming scene, and indeed is the scene of the ballet, which is otherwise long and dull enough. Houdin's clever trick of the *suspension aérienne* is well employed. But for St. Leon's violin playing, which is really very skilful, and Cerito's delicious dancing, the ballet would be intolerable. St. Leon has played frequently at London concerts, but never so well as on this occasion. The "Pas de l'Ange et du Démon," by Cerito, with St. Leon's violin obligato, was very animated. There is a pretty "pas de douze," in which Mlle. Louise Tagliioni and Madame Robert gained distinction; and a grand *chaine* of the animated flowers, towards the end, was also effective. If reduced to less than the hour, this ballet might become popular, but it is tiresome in its present shape. St. Leon, if not strong in fancy, is artistic in grouping.

The President, Prince Louis, was present at the ballet; between the acts some persons in the pit tried to get up a cheer for him; it was put down by the general audience with one of the most determined "Oh's" I ever heard in a French theatre. So much for the duration of popularity in Paris! I could scarcely believe my ears, when I recollected that nearly seven millions had voted for him but a few weeks since. This fact reminds me of the new piece just produced at the Théâtre du Vaudeville, called "La Foire aux Idées," by MM. Leuven and Brunswick. Like the "Propriété c'est le Vol," it is a musical satire on current political events, and its success has been enormous. I was present at the performance on Saturday night, when both pieces were given. The house was crowded to excess, and every hit at the Republic was repeatedly applauded; about a dozen encores were bestowed in "La Foire" on couplets containing points against men and things as they are. *La France*, represented by Madame Octave (the tempting Eve of "La Propriété") is depicted in a sickly state; she says she has upwards of 900 doctors whom she pays 25 francs per day to attend to her, but that they do nothing for her, and recommends that they had better drop their fees and go home to their families. This really produces roars of laughter at the expense of the National Assembly. *Le Caprice* is asked what is to be done with the President after four years of great services to the country, and replies, "We dismiss him." The "Questions brûlantes" are neatly posed by a hawk of gingerbread, who sells Crowns and Legions of Honour. *Capital* is shewn, with all his trepidation, in a golden coat, with a waistcoat the buttons of which are made of five-franc pieces, and braided with bank-notes. *L'idée*, with her son, *Caprice*, found an electric journal, the events in which are represented by living personages; and at the end there is a drop-scene representing a huge newspaper, with parodies on leading articles and the advertisements, &c., something similar to the one published in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS at Christmas. The "canards," "réclames," &c. are amusingly written in this colossal journal, a monthly edition of which is promised by the authors.

The Théâtre Italien, which opened so well on Tuesday week, has had two indifferent houses since, despite of Albani, Ronconi, and Lablache in "La Cenerentola." Albani is to appear in Rossini's "Italiana in Algeri," in the "Barbier," in "Ninetta," in "La Gazza Ladra," and in "Tancredi." Lablache, who leaves for Balie's concert in London on the 29th, and a month's tour in the English provinces, has promised to return in March, should the theatre be still open, which appears very doubtful. Mlle. Castellan is to appear in "Norma" and in Donizetti's "Don Pasquale." Owing to Lablache's indisposition, the fourth representation of "Cenerentola" was postponed.

The "Prophète" of Meyerbeer is so far advanced, that the stage rehearsals will commence early in February. The cast will include Madame Viodot, Madame Castellan, MM. Roger, Levasseur, and Brémont. The *divertissements* incidental to the opera are already in practice.

A LECTURE ON MUSIC BY SIR HENRY BISHOP, AT THE WHITTINGTON CLUB.—We are old enough to remember Sir Henry Bishop's early efforts as a composer; and we hailed his advent as a lecturer on the science on Thursday last, at the above club, with vast pleasure, and we were not disappointed. His subject was the progress of secular music in England during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with vocal specimens, or, as the bills describe it, illustrations, by the Misses and Mr. Williams, and Mr. Novello, and another vocalist. Sir Henry took a graphic view of all the early secular musicians, from Roland Blondell, Michael Este, John Benet, and through a long list of composers, down to Locke and our immortal Henry Purcell—of whose talent and on whose memory he dwelt with rapture and eloquence. He truly and properly coupled him with Shakespeare and Milton, as one of a triumvirate not excelled in history. The charm of Sir Henry's lecture was its terseness; there was nothing dragged in for effect. He described the progress of secular music, and called on his vocal assistants to exemplify, and very sweetly the two ladies and the gentleman carried out his object. The madrigals of past days, and the two, three, and four-part songs, as they were called two hundred years ago, were admirably sung; many of them were encored. The concert-room was crowded, and the applause enthusiastic.

THE THEATRES.

ST. JAMES'S.—FRENCH OPERA COMIQUE.

On Monday evening an attractive bill of fare was offered to the lovers of novelty at this elegant house, by the production of three one-act operas, which were well calculated to display the talents of the company, although of too slight a character to form the staple commodity of an entire evening's entertainment for a London public, which is apt to look for something more substantial as a *pice de resistance*. Of the three, only one appeared to make much impression upon the house. This was "Le Bouffé et le Tailleur," in which the clever singing and acting of Mlle. Charton and M. Condere drew down repeated bursts of applause, and called forth frequently those still stronger evidences of success, subdued bravos and hushed buzzes of approbation. The music, by Gaveaux, is light and agreeable, and full of pleasing melody, contrasting, in its old-fashioned character, with the later style of Montfort's "Polichinelle," which followed.

The house was well attended; and on Wednesday evening, crowded to hear "Le Domino Noir," which is listened to with increased pleasure on each succeeding representation.

The only novelty during the week has been at the OLYMPIC theatre, which continues its career of success. A comic drama was produced there on Monday evening, in two acts, called "Brigands in the Band." The frolics and embarrassments of a party of runaway students, who have assumed the character of bandits, under the guidance of Mrs. Stirling, as their captain, form the groundwork of a very amusing piece, and give occasion for some effective scenery and dresses. Mrs. Stirling both looked and played charmingly as the brigand chief; and Mr. Compton, disguised as a woman, and passing himself off, in the second act, as the brigand's wife, was more than ordinarily mirth-provoking. The piece, which has some good comic situations in it, was completely successful; and, judging from the effect it produced, is well calculated for the audience of the theatre, who were loud in their applause.

At the PRINCESS', a version of an opera, by Hérold, called "Marie, or the Foundling of the Lake," has been produced, but with indifferent success—a circumstance attributable to a want of sufficient care in its production. It was, however, merely needed as an introduction to the pantomime, which continues its career beyond all comparison the best of the season.

Mrs. Laura Addison will resume her position at the HAYMARKET theatre, which is nightly crowded, in the course of the ensuing week. Mr. Buckstone and Mrs. Fitzwilliam, it is now settled, will return there forthwith. The representations of the plays performed at Windsor, with nearly the same casts, have proved fortunate hits. The always-popular and always-abused drama of "The Stranger," in which the two chief characters are admirably played by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, has been performed with very great effect during the week.

SOME amateur performances are about to be given at Bath and Bristol, in the third week in February, for the benefit of such local charities as may be thought most deserving of support. Two evenings will be devoted to this purpose in each city; and the pieces of "Richelieu," "The Wreck Ashore," "Used Up," "His First Champagne," and "The Captain of the Watch" will be represented. The company has been partly formed from the *trouppe* who played before her Majesty at the Distressed Irish—the Canterbury "Cuckoo-week" Amateurs—and several gentlemen well known and moving in the fashionable circles of the metropolis. Mrs. Nesbitt and Miss Jane Mordant will sustain the principal female characters; and the affair is expected to go off with great effect.

AN EDITOR'S BANQUET.—The editor of the *New York Fuzgiggy* says:—"Poetry is the flour of literature; prose is the corn, potatoes, and meat; wit is the spice and pepper; love letters are the honey and sugar; and letters containing the remittances are the apple dumplings."

COUNTRY NEWS.

ALLEGED FELONY BY WEALTHY SILVERSMITHS AT BATH.

A case, which has created great excitement in Bath, and which has, for some days previously, been privately investigated by the magistrates of that city, was made the subject of public examination before the magistrates, at the Guildhall, on Monday. The accused are, Messrs. Warren and Fuller, silversmiths, of Westgate street, always regarded as two of the most respectable tradesmen of the place. They had been lodged in gaol, £20,000 bail having, it is stated, been refused. The charge against them is their having in their possession two silver lades, having thereupon the mark of the Goldsmiths' Company in London, which marks had been transposed and removed thereto from some other wares of silver. The following evidence was given:—

T. Hough, a weigher in the assay-office of the Goldsmiths' hall, stated that on the 30th December last, by direction of the wardens of the Goldsmiths' Company, he went to the shop of Messrs. Warren and Fuller, in Westgate-street, Bath. The prisoner Fuller was in the shop. He purchased eleven articles of silver-ware, which bore no stamp or mark of any description. They were not marked according to law. On the 6th Jan. inst. he went again to the shop of Messrs. Warren and Fuller under the same instructions, and then purchased 31 articles not marked as required by law. On that occasion he saw a silver soup-ladle (produced), which was pointed out by Mr. Warren. Saw on the same occasion a great quantity of articles not marked, and also that the mark on the soup-ladle was transposed. On the 9th Jan. inst. he went again to the shop of Messrs. Warren and Fuller, under the authority of a search-warrant, and, on that occasion, took away the silver soup-ladle and the silver gilt serving-spoon produced. Found also a great quantity of plate, amounting, altogether, with the ladle and serving-spoon, to 120 ounces, which he took away. There was a great quantity of other plate which was regularly marked. The plate taken away was all unmarked, except the two articles produced, where he conceived the marks had been transposed. Took the serving-spoon to Goldsmiths' Hall. Has since ascertained that the mark had been transposed and soldered on. The date of the mark on the serving-spoon is 1774. First of all, scraped off the gilt with a piece of emery paper; then warmed it before a lamp with a blowpipe; and then discovered that the joining ran the whole length of the handle. An assay was made of the bowl, the upper part of the shank, and the handle. The under part of the shank was not examined, as it bears the mark. The bowl was four pennyweights worse than the standard; the upper part of the shank was three pennyweights worse than the standard; and the handle was one pennyweight better than the standard. The loss of the duty to the Government on the soup-ladle and the serving-spoon is £1 7s. 9d. Has ascertained that the mark on the soup-ladle has been soldered on. About three inches of the shank had been spliced. Should say that any person in the trade would see where the joinings were made.

J. Ralph said he was an apprentice to Mr. Cousens, a jeweller, working for the jewellers in the town. He worked for Messrs. Warren and Fuller. He had seen the gilt spoon now produced before. When it was first brought to Cousens' shop the handle and bowl were complete. The bowl was not joined to the shank, and the figure was not joined to the shank. It was the same shape it is now. There was a piece put on the shank to make it stouter. The shank was in two pieces when he saw it first; when he first saw it there was the mark upon the one piece, and no mark upon the other. Could see that there had been a piece joined there, in the upper part. The piece came from Warren and Fuller's.

M. S. Cousens said he was a working jeweller. Had seen the gilt spoon now produced before. It was manufactured for Messrs. Warren and Fuller. The piece which contains the mark was a skewer. It was brought to have it made thicker so as to form a handle. It was to be made into a spoon. Believed the mark had been soldered on by orders of Warren and Fuller.

T. Mitchell, working silversmith, said he had worked for the prisoner Warren a considerable time. In the month of October, 1847, received instructions from Warren and Fuller to hammer on a piece of silver to a pattern; it was not stated what it was for, but thought it was for the bowl of a spoon. Sent it, when done, to Warren and Fuller's, and was desired by Mr. Fuller to charge it to Mr. Cousens, who is a working jeweller in Bath. The instructions given to charge it to Mr. Cousens were out of the usual course of business. Charged it to Cousens, who paid him for it. Afterwards received the service spoon produced, with another, from Warren and Fuller. This was about a fortnight or three weeks after he made the bowls. The orders were to gild them, which was done. About three weeks ago Warren came to him; he seemed rather excited, and asked if Mr. Thompson had been down, and on receiving an answer in the affirmative, said that if he (witness) had any of the old patterns about that had been made some years ago, they had better be put away, as the Goldsmiths' Company were down. Witness thereupon buried them in the garden. The same day Warren came back to him, and said the hidden patterns had better be melted; there might be some amongst them like those in stock. They were melted accordingly. Warren also said it would be well to put away the books, to fold them up and seal them, and give them to a friend, or he would hold them. Witness sealed the books up, and gave them to Warren; he also burnt a good many old books which were of no use, and gave Mr. Warren four modern ones. Was shortly afterwards sent for to Warren's house. Warren then said, respecting the spoons, they were the only things he cared about. Asked witness if he remembered the spoons he had hammered the bowls for? Told him he did. Warren said they were the only things there would be any trouble about. Witness replied that if they were shown to him he could not say but that he had seen them before. Warren observed that a memorial to the board was being drawn up to ease the fine.

H. S. Cousens, the elder, also gave evidence confirmatory of the charge against the prisoners. Warren had been to witness to request him to destroy certain patterns that had been used, and also to destroy his account-books. The case for the prosecution having been closed.

Mr. Stone addressed the bench at considerable length in behalf of the accused; after which

The magistrates held a private consultation, the result of which was a determination to commit both the prisoners for trial at the ensuing assizes. An application to accept bail was refused, and the warrants of committal having been made out, the accused, both of whom appeared to be much dejected, were removed to gaol. The examination lasted nearly six hours.

DEATH OF MR. R. CADELL, THE PUBLISHER OF SIR WALTER SCOTT'S WORKS.—Mr. Robert Cadell, the eminent publisher, expired at Ratho-house on Saturday, at half-past three o'clock. Mr. Cadell has for a very long period carried on the business of a publisher in Edinburgh. His various connexions with the affairs and publications of Sir Walter Scott, and his upright conduct to the illustrious baronet and his family, joined to his enterprise and skill, have associated his name with the literary history of Scotland.

REPRESENTATION OF THE SOUTHERN DIVISION OF STAFFORDSHIRE.—Simultaneously with the interment of Earl Talbot, an address to the electors had been issued by Lord Lewisham, eldest son of the Earl of Dartmouth. The noble Lord is a Conservative of the same school of the late member. He is opposed to Fr. E. Trade upon principle, but is disposed to give it a fair trial; and he is opposed to the endowment of the Roman Catholic Clergy.

THE ELECTION FOR BOLTON.—Sir Joshua Walsley is actively engaged canvassing the electors, and his friends state that he has been very cordially received by the Reformers generally. Mr. Bridson's friends are also in the field, and there is every prospect of a close contest.

FINANCIAL REFORM.—Mr. C. F. Barber has entered a notice, calling the attention of the Town Council of Boston to Mr. Cobden's measure for financial reform.

THE COMMERCE OF LIVERPOOL.—The greatness of the commerce of Liverpool was exemplified on Wednesday last in the fact that every dock belonging to the port was so full, that several inward-bound vessels had to anchor in the river.

A CURIOUS RAILWAY CASE is at present pending before the Scotch courts. Founding on a Scotch act of 1685, the town of Linlithgow claims tolls from the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway, the line of which passes through their territory. The town offered to take £1000 for the years 1842-43, which the railway declined. On being taken to the Court of Session, the outer and inner courts decided in favour of the charge. The case was then appealed to the House of Lords, but judgment was postponed till all the judges of the Court of Session should give their opinion, which will be done without much further delay. On the general question of road reform Edinburgh is retrograding, the county trustees having ordered the erection of a new check bar within the precincts of the city.

ELOPEMENT IN HIGH LIFE.—A paragraph has gone the round of the papers during last week, detailing the particulars of the elopement and marriage of a young nobleman—a resident, it is said, of this neighbourhood (Enville)—to a young woman of great personal attractions, but of humble rank in life, whose parents reside at Cambridge, where the intimacy was formed some twelve or eighteen months since, while his Lordship was pursuing his studies at that university. We believe that the nobleman referred to is the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, and that the youthful pair, after their marriage, proceeded to pass the honeymoon in Italy. The affair, as may be supposed, has been the occasion of much surmise and not a little animadversion; but we believe that the young lady is very amiable and accomplished, and that her parents are respectable inhabitants of Cambridge, but lacking the gifts of rank and fortune, both of which have been now acquired by the distinguished alliance of one of the wealthiest of the nobility of this country.—*Birmingham Journal*.

JENNY LIND AT NORWICH.—Jenny Lind went to Norwich on Saturday, with the kind intention of singing at two concerts for the benefit of the charities of the city. She was hospitably entertained at the Bishop's palace, and a number of gentlemen waited upon her to beg her acceptance of a shawl and some other articles of Norwich manufacture. She very graciously received the presents, and afterwards delighted the company by sing three songs—one a Swedish song, another from "Der Freischütz," and the third from an Italian opera. On Sunday morning and afternoon Mlle. Lind, accompanied by the Lord Bishop, attended divine service at the Cathedral. On Monday and Tuesday the concerts took place, when Jenny enraptured the audiences by the sweetness of her tones and the chasteness of her style. She was enthusiastically applauded.

BURNING DOWN OF THE RAILWAY STATION AT HATFIELD PERVE-REL.—On Thursday se'night the railway station at the village of Hatfield Peverel, on the Eastern Counties line, about three miles from Witham, was destroyed by fire. The station being small, and built of wood, it was speedily reduced to ashes, together with books, tickets, and everything belonging to it, the brick chimney only being left standing. How the fire originated, remains a mystery.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—EXTENSIVE LOSS OF LIFE.—About twelve o'clock at noon, on Wednesday, a dreadful explosion took place at Darley Main Colliery, which is situated about two miles south of Barnsley. From inquiries made on the spot, it appears that there were, at the time of the explosion, as near as can be now ascertained, about 105 persons (men and boys) in the pit. Instant measures were taken to rescue the survivors, and 27 were taken out, during the evening and night, alive, but more or less injured. Seventy-five, up to half-past three p.m. on Thursday, were taken out dead; and three of the twenty-seven taken out alive have since died. It is generally supposed that the explosion arose from the high winds, which have for two days prevailed, "pennning up" or forcing back the foul air in its attempt to escape. The bodies are many of them horribly mutilated.

WILFUL DAMAGE TO THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH WIRES.—Several interruptions of the communication by electric telegraph between Manchester and Birmingham having taken place lately, Mr. Cox, the company's manager, on Saturday, went along the line of railway to ascertain the cause, and found that some malicious persons had twisted the wires, some around the others, at the Newton Bridge-station, near Birmingham; the marks of footsteps underneath showed where the parties had stood to accomplish their purpose. Mr. Cox immediately telegraphed the facts to London, and by instructions immediately sent back issued hand-bills offering a reward of £10 for the detection and conviction of the offenders. By the Electric Telegraph Company's Act of Parliament, persons guilty of such offences are punishable with fine and imprisonment. The wires near Willenhall were once before found to have been forcibly intertwined in the same way.

EMIGRATION TO THE GOLDEN REGIONS.—On Wednesday, the town of Peterborough, from twelve at noon, was all excitement, from the appearance of two waggons loaded with people, consisting of men, women, and children, all dressed in holiday attire, who were preceded by another wagon loaded with boxes, trunks, &c. The travellers stopped at the station, when it was learned that they were emigrating to golden California, and had come from the neighbourhood of Spalding. There are many others from the neighbourhood about to follow their example.

FAILURE OF TWO BANKS.—The stoppage of the two well-established Welsh banks, those of Mr. Kendrick and of Mr. Lloyd, of Wrexham, has created astonishment and consternation in that neighbourhood. The bank of Mr. Kendrick was first closed, and an offer was made to his creditors of 14s. in the pound. After several meetings of the creditors, it was ascertained that 14s. 6d. might be realised; and, accordingly, the creditors have generally signified their acceptance of that dividend. Mr. Kendrick's liabilities are under £22,200. The astonishment of the inhabitants was beyond all bounds on Thursday, the 10th inst., when they were informed that the bank of Mr. R. M. Lloyd was closed. So great was the belief in his solvency, that many persons would not believe there was a stoppage, until they went to the bank and ascertained the fact themselves. The confidence reposed in Mr. Lloyd was unbounded; he was treasurer and banker for nearly all the clubs in the town and neighbourhood. One club alone had upwards of £5000 with him. His liabilities are upwards of £48,000, and his assets are very trifling; it is estimated that his estate will not realise 2s. 6d. in the pound. The greatest depression exists in the town and neighbourhood, as many persons were wholly dependent upon the money deposited in his bank. Both gentlemen were magistrates for the county of Denbigh.

RAILWAY COLLISION.—On Tuesday morning, as the half-past six o'clock train from Bradford to Leeds was approaching the Apperby-bridge station, the engine ran into a train of three ballast-waggons which had been negligently left upon the down line, or, as another report says, had been thrown over upon it by the high winds. Many of the passengers were much jolted and bruised through the force of the collision, but no serious injuries were sustained.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT.—On Saturday last five men were employed at the foundry of Messrs. Kaye and Hirst, in Leeds-road, Huddersfield, and everything was prepared for casting a large beam, for some railway works, of several tons weight, when suddenly the cupola burst, scattering its molten matter on all around, and the five poor fellows were most horribly burnt and scalded. One of them was in such a dreadful state of agony, that he plunged into the reservoir to extinguish the fire. No blame appears to attach to any one. The poor sufferers were immediately conveyed to their homes, and medical aid instantly procured, and although some of them were at first considered in the greatest danger, at present they appear to be doing well, with every prospect of recovery.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—The Mayor of Hartlepool, Mr. W. J. Vollum, was last week hurried to a premature grave, in the prime of life, in the full enjoyment of health, station, wealth, and honour, presiding, as he was, for the second time, over that corporation. After enjoying the society of a few select friends, at his own house, on Thursday evening, Mr. Vollum took a walk down to the docks, where it is supposed he fell over the quay within a quarter of an hour of leaving his own dwelling, as his hat was picked up floating in the Victoria Dock, about half-past ten o'clock, half an hour after he had left home. The man who found the hat, not having any idea of any one having fallen into the water, took no particular notice of the circumstance that night, but, on the following day, named it to several captains in the harbour, thinking they were the most likely parties to have lost it, but without learning any tidings of the owner of it. The family of the Mayor did not say anything about his absence, expecting he would soon reach his own home in safety, as he had, on some previous occasions, been from home for a day. However, after six o'clock on Friday night, their fears were excited, and no means were left untaken to learn what had become of him. In their inquiries, the account of the hat was communicated to them, which led to the discovery of the body of the unfortunate gentleman, about ten o'clock, near to the place where the hat was first seen floating. The deceased was in his 38th year, a widower himself, and has left a widowed mother to lament his untimely end. He has been for many years manager of Messrs. Backhouse and Co.'s Branch Bank at Hartlepool, and was the owner of large household property in the town, and shareholder in the Hartlepool Dock and Railway Company.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE BY THE FALLING OF A RAILWAY ARCH.—An accident occurred on Saturday last, at noon, by the fall of part of an arch, erected by the London and North-western Company, at Manchester. The line of Railway known as the South Junction, connecting the London and Manchester line with that from Manchester to Liverpool, is carried on a viaduct, across Oxford-road and Deansgate, chiefly constructed of brick, and between these two points, near the bottom of Gloucester-street, the arches had been completed, and on Saturday the servants of the contractor were striking away the centres from one of these arches, when, from some cause, the north side gave way and fell in. There were ten labourers at work at the time, and under the superstructure, superintended by Mr. Patrick, manager for Mr. Bellhouse, the contractor, and one of these men, named Ralph Beresford, being underneath, was buried by the falling materials, and killed. Two other men, named James Oates and Thomas Davis, were on the top of the arch, and sinking with it to where two of the disjoined portions of the arch again came in contact with each other, were transixed and held between them for some time—and, when released, were found to be useless and dreadfully crushed. Two other labourers, named Peter Crosby and Philip Murphy, were found to be badly hurt by the accident, and were removed to the infirmary. An hour and a quarter had elapsed ere the superincumbent materials could be removed, so as to get at the body of Beresford. The exact cause of the accident is not known, but the works being of brick, and the arches slightly askew, it is thought that the expansion and contraction consequent on alternate frosts and rains, during the building, may have been the source of the sad event. The loss to the railway company, or contractors, will be comparatively trivial.

A FIRE, believed to have been caused by an incendiary, occurred on Sunday last at Mr. J. Teesdale's, Frampton-fen, Lincolnshire, which destroyed nearly £1000 worth of property.

THE COGGESHALL GANG OF BURGLARS.—CAPTURE OF BRAND.—John Brand, the only member of the Coggeshall gang who has hitherto eluded apprehension, and who it was long since said had gone to America, was captured on Saturday night last, and is now in safe custody.

AN AWKWARD MISTAKE.—A Charleston paper states that the steamer *Fanny*, at New Orleans from Corpus Christi, brings a rumour that Colonel Hays and his men had been attacked by General Urrea, on the Rio Grande, and cut to pieces. It is said General Urrea mistook them for a band of robbers.

IMPORTATION OF CORN.—The collectors, and comptrollers, and other principal officers of the customs department, at the several ports and places throughout the kingdom, have received an intimation to the effect, that, as the present scale of duties on corn, meal, and flour, which is governed by the average prices, will cease, and fixed rates become chargeable, on and after the 1st of February proximo, it is directed by the commissioners that the weekly corn returns, hitherto transmitted to the Inspector-General of Imports and Exports, be, from that date made out in weekly periods, comprising the receipts, deliveries, &c., from the morning of Thursday to the afternoon of the following Wednesday inclusively, observing that in the weekly return for the period next following the receipt of the certificate dated the 25th of January, that portion only of the week is to be included which shall have elapsed before the 1st of February.

CALIFORNIAN GOLD.—A letter has been received from Philadelphia, under date of Dec. 9, which states that the writer had just witnessed the melting into bars of a large quantity of gold deposited there on Friday last, by Mr. Carter, who had recently returned from the mines in California. He had deposited about 300,000 dollars' worth in scales and lumps, such as the agent of the War-Office had carried on to Philadelphia. It had not yet been assayed, but from its appearance it leaves (as it comes from the furnace) the impression at the mint that it is about equal in value to our gold coin, ounce for ounce. There can no longer be any doubt of the genuineness of the gold. The process of assaying would probably be completed in the course of Monday, after which its results will, we presume, be duly published.—*Washington Union*.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.—Mr. J. T. Norris, one of the leading members of the corporation, has given notice of the following motion in the Court of Common Council:—"That a market for the sale of live cattle in the midst of a city is incompatible with the convenience of persons resorting thither for purposes of business; that the present market of Smithfield is insufficient in space, as well as objectionable in situation; that the safety and health of the inhabitants demand its immediate removal; and that, therefore, a special ward committee be appointed to consider what steps shall be taken to remedy the existing evils by providing a suitable market-place."



RATTLESNAKE AND YOUNG IN THE MENAGERIE OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

RATTLESNAKE AND YOUNG,

AT THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

The Female Rattlesnake and her Brood—which form the subject of Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins's spirited illustration—were presented to the Zoological Society of London by Captain Mackenzie M'Luckie. This gentleman, we are informed, succeeded, during his late visit to Berbice, in obtaining a pair of adult Cascavel Rattlesnakes, of which, however, the male effected his escape before the case containing them was put on board ship. During the voyage homeward, the female produced a brood of nineteen young ones, of which about one-half were a few days since living in the Society's menagerie. We believe that the present instance is the first on record of young Rattlesnakes being seen alive in this country; indeed, the peculiar habits of the adult render their successful treatment in captivity so difficult, that very few examples have survived their importation.

The sound of the rattle, of which so much has been said, and which has given rise to the popular name applied to three or four species of venomous serpents of this form, may be very distinctly heard whenever the attention of the mother is attracted. There appears, at present, to be no indication of it in the young. This very interesting group is well placed in a case of plate glass, which admits of their being observed minutely, and without danger.

Towards the close of 1847, Dr. Wainwright, formerly a captain in the British service, but for the last ten years a physician of eminent standing in New York, met a melancholy death by the bite of a Rattlesnake. The American papers supplied many particulars respecting the singular catastrophe. The snake was about five feet in length, having twelve rattles. It was contained in a box with spars over the top. "The Doctor was on his way home from the ship with the present, but stopped at the Broadway-house to show the curiosity. The company present seemed to enjoy teasing and irritating the snake, while the reptile kept whizzing its rattle at a furious rate. The box was opened; and now there being a fair field, the reptile kept coiling and rearing itself in fierce defiance of its enemies. This display lasted some time; when Dr. Wainwright touched the Snake a few inches below the head, expecting that it could not bend its body sufficiently to bite. In a moment it snapped, and inflicted a wound on the first joint of the middle finger of the right hand." A superficial excision of the part was immediately made, the wound was cauterised with nitrate of sulphur, and a ligature was applied above the wrist. The hand began to swell immediately after the occurrence of the accident; and the poison progressed rapidly in its course to the forearm and arm. But no constitutional symptoms seem to have made their appearance until it reached what the faculty technically termed the "axilla," or armpit; when immediately the pulse began to flag; and, notwithstanding the continual application of stimulants, the pulse never rallied until about 12 o'clock p.m., when death put a period to the doctor's existence.

GRAND BALL AT CHELSEA.

On Monday night the non-commissioned officers of the 1st Regiment of Life Guards gave their Annual Ball to the non-commissioned officers of the 2nd Life Guards, Royal Horse Guards (Blue), 11th Hussars, and Hon. Artillery Company of the City, at the Commercial Hall, King's-road, Chelsea. The dancing

was kept up with great spirit until six o'clock next morning, when the company separated, after singing the National Anthem. The band of the 1st Regiment of Life Guards played throughout the evening. The Hall, which is very spacious and richly furnished with large mirrors, was, upon this occasion, decorated with swords, helmets, banners, and other military insignia, supplied by the 1st Life Guards; and when the saloon was filled with company, the splendour of the uniforms and the elegance of the ladies' dresses formed a very brilliant scene. The Ball was well managed; and great credit is due to the stewards, Corporal-Majors Limbert, Roberts, Buckstone, Lyon, Barraud, Jackson, and Dearnly, for their kind attention to the ladies and visitors.

THE CALIFORNIA GOLD MINES.

Letters from California state that further discoveries had been made in the gold region, which yield even a more abundant supply than the previous diggings. According to the latest accounts, the gathering amounted, on the average, to about 100,000 dollars daily, and was constantly increasing, without, apparently, an exhaustion, or any limit to the supply. There was a great amount of distress among the diggers, from the want of the common necessities of life, and attended with very extensive sickness and mortality. Men loaded with gold appeared like haggard vagabonds, clothed in filthy garments of the meanest kind. To show the value at which liquors are estimated, it is stated that one man, who had two barrels of brandy, sold them at the mines, by the small wine-glass, at rates which realised him 14,000 dollars in gold. Everything, and particularly articles of food and raiment, were at most unheard-of prices; for gold was so plentiful in the possession of every one, that it seemed to have lost its value. Daily additions are being made to the numbers employed in digging. No portion of the vast flood of emigration from the United States had arrived. A party of Mormons had collected large quantities of gold in the neighbourhood of the Salt Lake; while on a journey, one of them lost a mule, with 1280 dollars worth of gold on its back. The animal being frightened, ran off in the midst of a vast plain, and was irretrievably lost.

A person lately returned from the "diggings" states that cattle were plentiful in the country, vegetables generally scarce, and very little fruit. There was a considerable quantity of flour at Sutter's Fort, and large quantities were pouring in. He also says that he has read no account that at all exaggerates either the quantity or quality of the gold. He further states that gold is found in dry ravines, as well as those covered with water.

Persons who collect with any kind of system amass three times the quantity of dust and ore as those who go digging anywhere do. A party of some 20 or 30 were exploring a dry ravine that led to a mountain supposed to be rich with the precious ore; when near its base, they came suddenly upon a spot which glittered with gold-dust and ore, caused by the washings from the mountains. In an instant every man threw himself upon the ground where lay scattered the treasure, and sprawling out his arms and legs, claimed a right to that portion of the earth. The title was regarded by each as good, and the average yield in a short time was upwards of 300 dollars.

Accounts received from Mazatlan inform us that vessels had arrived there from California with gold, some of which had been assayed, and found to average 21 carats. Her Majesty's surveying brig, *Pandora*, 6, Lieutenant James Wood, Commander, had taken 280,000 dollars' worth in all, and was to land it at Panama, to be sent across the isthmus to Chagres, and by the mail steamers to Southampton.

It is stated in the New York papers that the Government had recently re-

ceived very late advices from the gold region of such a glowing and glittering character, as even to justify the withholding of particulars from the public.

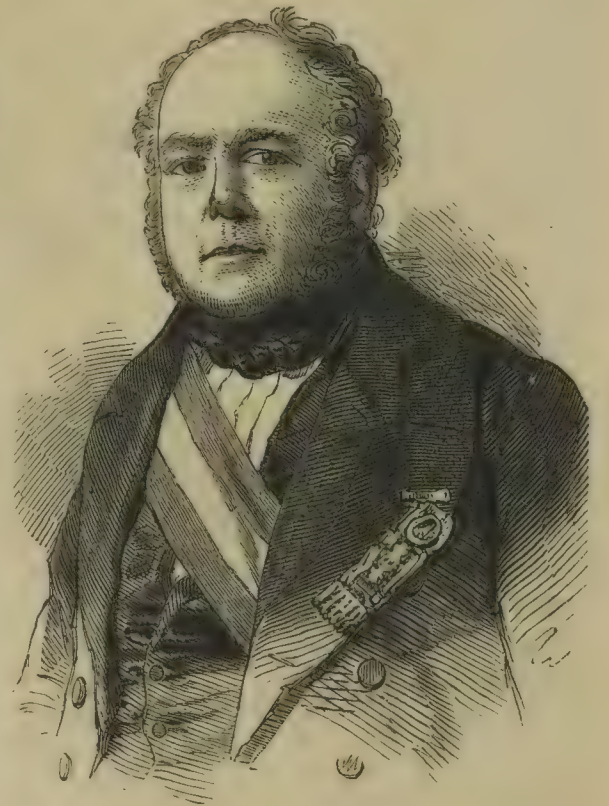
COST OF THE PASSAGE TO CALIFORNIA.—The cost of getting to San Francisco by the Chagres route, using the mail steamers, is about 375 dollars; say 150 dollars to Chagres, 20 dollars across the Isthmus, and 200 dollars from Panama to San Francisco. By taking second-cabin passages, however, the cost will be reduced about 80 dollars; and by taking sailing-vessels instead of steamer to Chagres, the passage may be made for 250 dollars. The voyage *via* Vera Cruz and Acapulco may probably be made in rather less time, but not cheaper. The passage *via* Panama will probably average 35 days from New York. The distance from Panama to San Francisco is about 3500 miles. The prices of passage in the United States ships from Panama to the ports respectively named on the Pacific coast are as follows:—

	Miles.	In State-rooms.
Panama to Realejo ..	700	64 dollars
Ditto Acapulco ..	1500	125 "
Ditto San Blas ..	2000	175 "
Ditto Mazatlan ..	3300	225 "
Ditto San Diego ..	3500	250 "

Passage in the lower cabin at a reduction of one-fifth from the above rates. Passage in the forward cabin from Panama to either of the above-named ports, 100 dollars. Pay in advance in all cases.—*Washington Union*.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

HENRY GEORGES BOULAY (de la Meurthe), who was, on Saturday last, elected to the Vice-Presidency of the French Republic, was born at Nancy, in Lorraine, on the 15th of July, 1797.

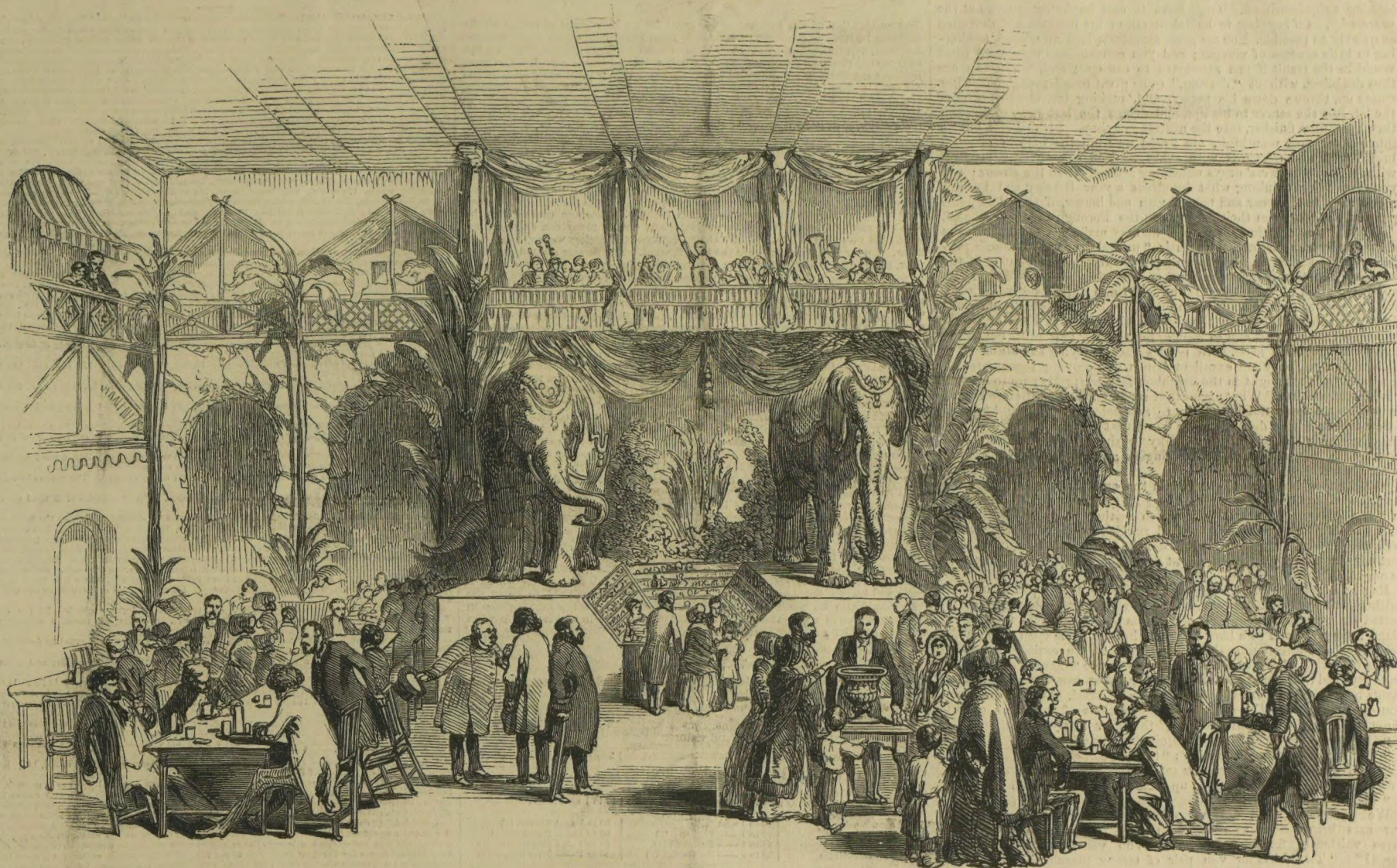
THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,
M. BOULAY (DE LA MEURTHE).

The new Vice-President is not a man of any distinguished talents, and his election instead of M. Vivien, formerly Minister of Justice and Public Works, and, until the late Revolution, President of the Council of State, is attributed partly to the desire of the Assembly to give a "heavy blow and great discouragement" to the Odillon Barrot Cabinet, whose candidate he was, and partly to a wish to perform an act grateful to the President of the Republic, whose intimate friend he is. M. Boulay is a moderate man in political opinion. He lost his election of Colonel of the National Guard of the 11th arrondissement, immediately after the events of February, on account of his frank and courageous declaration that he was not a Republican. M. Boulay was always remarkable for his Bonapartist predilections, and it was he who, year after year, got up petitions to the Chamber to annul the decree of banishment against that family, and, while a deputy, either presented or supported them strenuously when presented by others. M. Boulay declined to attend the great banquet, the precursor of the revolution of February, which was to have been presided over by M. Odillon Barrot.

M. Boulay sits in the National Assembly for La Meurthe, in the Vosges; and is a Member of the Municipal Council of Paris.



GRAND BALL AT THE COMMERCIAL HALL, CHELSEA.



KROLL'S WINTER EXHIBITION, AT BERLIN.

KROLL'S WINTER EXHIBITION, AT BERLIN.

"KROLL'S GARDEN" is the Vauxhall of Berlin, with the advantage of being a place of resort in winter as well as summer. The grounds are small, and were enclosed out of the Thier-garten after the pleasure palace, for so it may be called, was built. The exterior of Kroll's establishment has considerable architectural effect, and within is certainly the most complete and magnificent edifice of the kind in Europe. The large saloon, used for concerts, public dinners, and balls, will accommodate three thousand persons seated at table; it runs the whole length of the building, widening in the centre into a large square apartment devoted to dancing, and surrounded by private boxes, a box for the Royal Family, and an orchestra. Throughout the summer the amusements are of the same varied character as at Vauxhall, with the addition of lotteries and firing at targets for small prizes. In winter concerts and balls are given almost every night. For the New Year the Great Hall is fitted up in the most gorgeous style as a promenade, with music. This year the scenery of the tropics has been selected, and the whole of the saloon is converted into a palm forest, with creeping plants, snakes, and wild animals in abundance. The orchestra is supported by two elephants, imitating nature in form and colour very successfully. Here the Berliners sip their coffee every evening, and listen to waltzes and overtures, varied by the buffoonery of a puppet theatre; as many as six thousand persons have this year paid for admission in one night. The engraving shows a section of the centre apartment, with the orchestra.

PICTURESQUE SKETCHES OF LONDON,
PAST AND PRESENT.

BY THOMAS MILLER.

CHAPTER X.—THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF WHITECHAPEL AND
RAG-FAIR.

Our present Engraving represents the picturesque row of butchers' shops at the entrance of Whitechapel. The second house, with the projecting bay-windows, is rich in ornamental detail, and will recall to the reader of history the period when this was the Court end of London, and Royalty resided in the Tower. The Prince of Wales's Feathers, the Arms of Westminster, the *Fleur-de-lis* of France, and Thistle of Scotland are still standing on the front of this ancient mansion; and it is just possible that the house was once the residence of Prince Henry, son of James the First, as the monogram, yet visible, bears the initials, H. S., surmounted with plumes, which, very probably, stand for Henry Stuart. The Earls of Northumberland, the Throgmortons, and many noble families and wealthy merchants, in former days, resided in this neighbourhood; for, beside the Tower, there was Crosby-place, at no great distance, where the Protector, afterwards Richard the Third, held his court.

How changed is this ancient neighbourhood; the very house in which the Black Prince lodged when he resided in the city had long before Stowe's time been turned into an hostel, and the apartments in which grave councils were held, and where many a glorious victory was planned, echoed back the voice of some Francis, who, amid "the clinking of pewter," exclaimed, "Anon, anon, sir;" or "Score a pint of bastard in the Half-Moon." The citizens had at that early period turned into bowling-alleys the quaintly laid-out gardens in which the Percies of old Northumbria "took their pleasure;" and where some pretty Kate, showing her pearly teeth, had no doubt threatened to "break the little finger" of her fiery Hotspur, who was too eager to leave her dainty bower, and hasten to the wars.

He, also, has long since vanished—the haughty Prior of the Holy Trinity, who, with "jingling bridle" in hand, bestrode his prancing palfrey, and rode, "second to none," amongst the rich Aldermen of London, proud of his broad domains, which, in those days, extended to the margin of the Thames, and over many a rich acre beside those on which Whitechapel now stands. No Earl of Salisbury now goes "sounding" through the city streets, with his long train of five hundred mounted followers, all clad in his household livery, and causing the old shopkeepers to cease their cry of "What do you lack?" while they watched the gay cavalcade, until it was lost, under the low-browed archway that stood before his ancient city mansion, by Dowgate.

Baynard Castle, where Henry VII. received his ambassadors, and in which the crafty Cecil plotted against Lady Jane Grey, almost before the ink was dry with which he had solemnly registered his name to serve her, has long ago been numbered amongst the things that were; and seldom do the "silver-snarling trumpets," with their "loud acclaim," disturb the deep sleep of the old city, to announce the in-coming or the out-going of Royalty. The archers of Mile-end, with their chains of gold, have departed: the spot on which the tent stood, where bluff Hal regaled himself after having witnessed their sports, is now covered with mean-looking houses;—the poetry of ancient London is dead. The voice of the stream is for ever hushed that went murmuring before the dwellings of our forefathers, along Aldgate and down Fenchurch-street, and past the door of Sir Thomas Gresham's house, in Lombard-street, until it doubled round by the Mansion-house and emptied itself into

the river. There is still a sound of waters by the Steam-packet Wharf, at London-bridge; but, oh, how different to the "brawling brook" of former days, is the "evil odour" which arises from that poisonous sewer!

Behind London-bridge and around the Tower we find churches and ancient mansions which stood centuries before the Great Fire went red-dening and blackening, and destroying every other vestige of the old city; for here alone do we wander through the London which our forefathers rendered so famous; here look upon the grey and time-worn monuments which have preserved their memories. The history of the ancient city has yet to be written; it must be the "pleasant labour" of some one possessed of both talent and leisure. It is a task too great for us to accomplish.

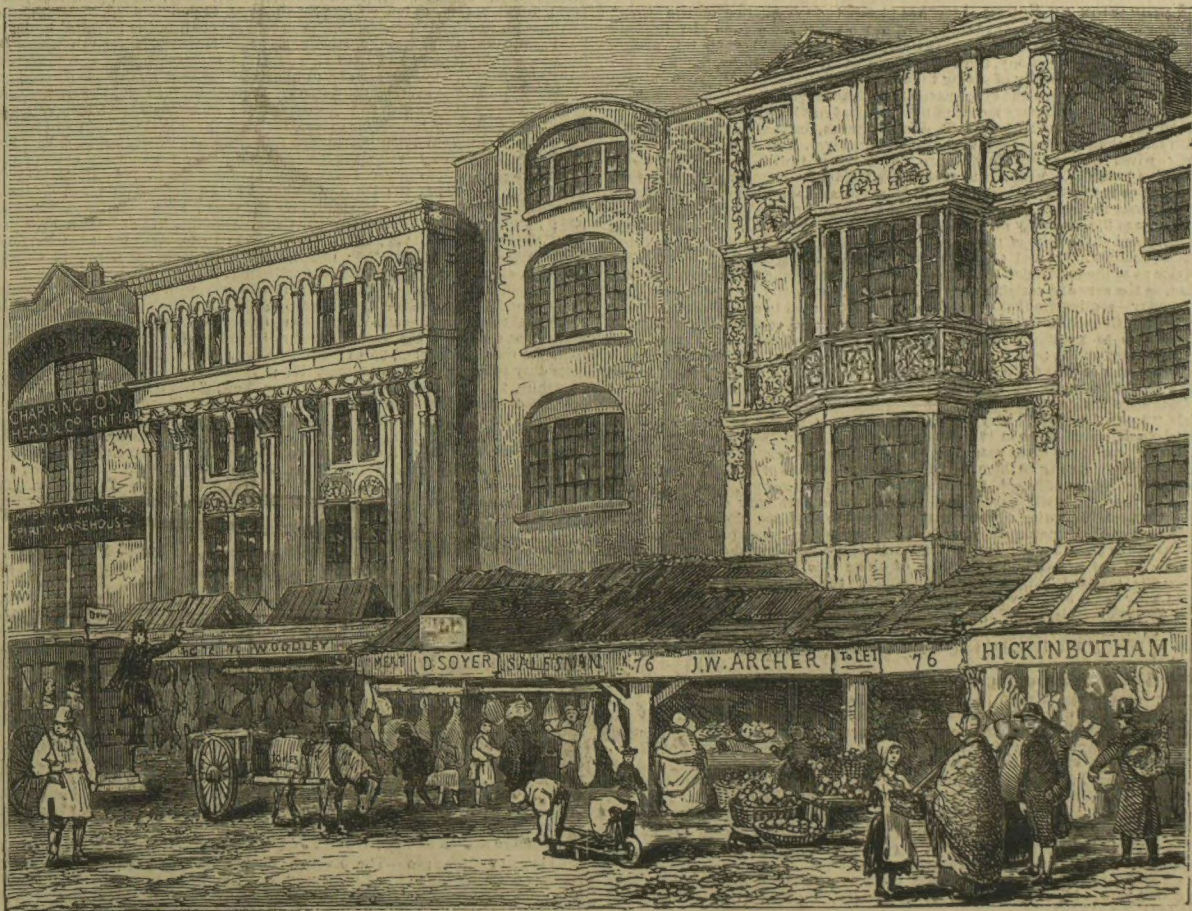
And what have these old-world splendours given place to in this neighbourhood? Splendid gin-shops, plate-glass palaces—into which squalor and misery rush, and drown the remembrance of their wretchedness in drowsy and poisonous potations of gin. Splendour and squalor, the very contrast of which make thinking men pause, but are disregarded by those who contribute to the one, and recklessly endure the other.

The Whitechapel butcher belongs to the old school. He takes a delight in his blue livery, and wears his steel with as much satisfaction as a young ensign does his sword. He neither spurns the worsted leggings nor duck apron; but with bare muscular arms, and knife keen enough to sever the ham-string of an old black bull, takes his stand proudly at the front of his shop, and looks "lovingly" on the well-fed joints that dangle above his head. The gutters before his door literally run with blood: pass by whenever you may, there is the crimson current constantly flowing; and the smell the passenger inhales is not such as may be supposed to have floated over "Araby the blest." A "Whitechapel bird" and a "Whitechapel butcher" were once synonymous phrases, used to denote a character the very reverse of a gentleman; but in the manners of the latter we believe there is a great improvement, and that more

than one "knight of the cleaver" who here in the daytime manufacture sheep into mutton-chops, keeps his country-house.

The specimens of viands offered for sale in these streets augur well for the strength of the stomachs of the Whitechapel populace; no gentleman of squeamish appetite would like to run the risk of trying one of those out-of-door dinners, which ever stand ready-dressed. The sheep's trotters look as if they had scarcely had time enough to kick off the dirt before they were potted; and as for the ham, it appears bleached, instead of salted; and to look at the sandwiches, you would think they were veal, or anything except what they are called. As for the fried fish, it resembles coarse red sand-paper; and you would sooner think of purchasing a penny-worth to polish the handle of a cricket-bat or racket, than of trying its qualities in any other way. The black-puddings resemble great fossil ammonites, cut up lengthwise; for while you gaze on them, you cannot help picturing these relics of the early world, and fancying that they must have been found in some sable soil abounding in broken fragments of gypsum, which would account for the fat-like substances inside. What the "faggots" are made of, which form such a popular dish in this neighbourhood, we have yet to learn. We have heard rumours of chopped lights, liver, suet, and onions being used in the manufacturing of these dusky dainties; but he must be a daring man who would convince himself by tasting: for our part, we feel confident that there is a great mystery to be unravelled before the innumerable strata which form these smoking hillocks will ever be made known. The pork-pies which you see in these windows contain no such effeminate morsels as lean meat, but have the appearance of good substantial bladders of lard shoved into a strong crust, from which there was no chance of escape, then sent to the oven and "done brown." The ham and beef houses display the same love of fatness, as if neither pig nor bullock could be over-fed that come to be consumed by the "greasy citizens" of the east end of London.

As for fish! the very oysters gape at you with open mouths, as if



PICTURESQUE SKETCHES OF LONDON.—WHITECHAPEL.

man, late of the Hon C.M.S. —At Goldie Leigh, Plumstead, aged 57, Basil Heron Goldie, Esq., late of the Ordnance-office, Tower, and son of the late Lieutenant-General Thomas Goldie, of Goldie-Leigh, near Dumfries. —At Kensington, Mary, widow of the late Rev Michael Ward, rector of Stiffkey and Morston, Norfolk, aged 81 —At the vicarage, Weasenham, Norfolk, Sarah Jane, wife of the Rev Charles Campbell.

ADVERTISEMENT.

TO ADVERTISERS.—As we restrict the Advertisements to One Page only, to prevent disappointment two or three days' notice is necessary to ensure the insertion of an Advertisement. The Exhibitions will be found on page 51.

Now Ready, New Edition for 1849: thoroughly revised, **THE PEEAGE, BARONETAGE, KNIGHTAGE, &c.**, for 1849 (Ninth Year). By CHARLES R. DOD, Esq., Author of "The Parliamentary Companion," &c. Fcap 8vo, handsomely bound in cloth, gilt, price 10s. 6d. WHITTAKER and Co., Ave Maria-lane.

MURRAY'S HOME AND COLONIAL LIBRARY. On February 1st will be published, post 8vo, 2s. 6d., **STOKERS and POKERS; or, The London and North-western Railway.** The Electric Telegraph and the Railway Clearing-House, with the Annals of the Bill from the Brunton of Nassau. —JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

MOLLE, JENNY LIND AT EXETER HALL. The Song of THE LONELY ROSE, which will be sung by Miss Jenny Lind, on Monday next, is published this day at CRAMER, BEALE, and Co's, 201, Regent-street.

A. LEE'S NEW SONGS.—"Farewell, ye happy hours," and "Sweet lady, good night," both of which are being sung at various Concerts, and have met with the highest encomiums from the public press. Also, by the same Author, "Home and Friends around me." Price 2s. each, and forward postage free.—All popular music constantly in stock. London: B. WILLIAMS, 11, Paternoster-row.

"Pianista" Office, 67, Paternoster-row. **THE PROPRIETORS OF THE PIANISTA** big most respectfully to inform their subscribers that the price of this Work will be published, post 8vo, 2s. 6d., on the 1st of January 1849. Any Number sent post-free for 30 stamps. Any three Numbers for 7s. stamps. Any six Numbers post-free.

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EXETER HALL.—The opinions of the Press, and likewise Testimonials received from various parties, will convince the most sceptical that the comfort and elegance of style combined in CAHAN'S TROWERS were never yet produced, from 16s. to 25s. At E. CAHAN'S, 371, Strand, adjoining Exeter Hall.

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SIX SUPERIOR SHIRTS FOR 26s. at ROGERS and CO., Shirt-makers, 59, St. Martin's-lane, and No. 29, at the corner of New-street, Covent-garden. (Established 60 years.) Boys' Shirts, in all sizes, Six for 14s. 6d., or Six for 12s. 6d., with the (new pattern) fashionable Collars, Collar, &c., and the Monopole, or the Monopole. Returned. N.B. The largest and best assortment of Shirts in London.

POST-OFFICE ORDERS.—In exchange for one value 7s. 6d., payable to WHITELOCK and SON, 166, Strand, Gentlemen will receive free, per post, a sample of their celebrated 6d. SHIRTS, of best Long Cloth, with fine linen Fronts Collar, &c., and guaranteed fit. Measure to be taken right round the neck, chest, and wrists. Fancy Velvets, Furs for dress, 2s. extra.—All the new patterns in Coloured Shirts, 3s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. each.

BERDOE'S NEW OVER-COAT, the PALLIUM TEFIDUM, while, in every sense, a truly respectable and first-rate garment, requiring no other recommendation than an inspection, is sold at the moderate cost of from 55s. to 65s. A very large stock kept to select from. Also, of superior Over-Coats of all kinds, Wrappers, Driving Capes, &c., at from 50s. to 70s. All the above are guaranteed to resist any amount of rain; and, but for their well-known extensive sale, it would be impossible to offer such garments at the prices stated.—95, New Bond-street; and 69, Cornhill.

THE INSCRIPTION ON THE PAVEMENT.

'Tis sad, poor scribbler of the flags,
To leave thee there in thy distress;
To look unmoved upon thy rags,
More eloquent than nakedness;
To leave thee in the wind and rain—
To steel the heart, avert the eye:
But, yet, thou tell'st thy tale in vain;
I can but grieve, and pass thee by.

Though harsh it seem to such as thou,
Our English law is wise and good.
If to the starving we allow
Protection, shelter, clothes, and food—
If heavy tax, ungrudging, we pay
To keep the beggar from the street—
What right hast thou to block the way,
And vend thy squalor at our feet?

'Tis easy, doubtless, to efface
Unpleasant thoughts, or rising qualms,
By giving, to forget thy case,
The lazy tribute of our alms;
But is it just, while widows grieve
Or orphan babes in secret pine,
To let them die, while we relieve
Such importunity as thine?

And surely, if thine art can spell
Thy sufferings to the public view,
Thy hand can pull the workhouse bell
To ask the parish for thy due?
Though cold my words, their truth remains—
My judgment dictates the reply;
I give thee nothing for thy pains,
I pity—but I pass thee by.

And yet, God knows, I do not grudge
To share my little with the poor,
And many a weary mile I'd trudge
To help the needy—were I sure.
I'd part my shillings or my crusts
With misery in her secret cells;
But clamorous beggary disgusts—
Theatric nakedness repels.

CHARLES MACKAY.

made without the consent of the present incumbent, or take place after his death.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

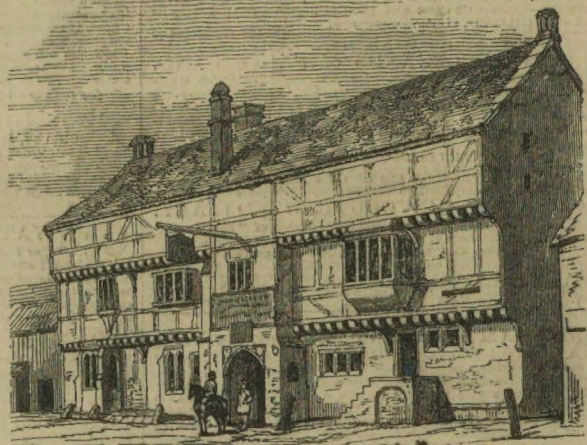
THE GEORGE INN, NORTON ST. PHILIP'S, SOMERSET.

From a granary to an inn is no very startling change in appropriation, and such is the history in little of the monastic building before us; reminding us of the times when the *hostel* was a place of greater importance than in the present railway age, and when the innkeeper was invariably a man of substance.

The ancient edifice before us was formerly a granary belonging to Hinton Abbey, in the village of Norton St. Philip's, between Bath and Frome. It has been greatly disfigured by modern hands, but there is much left of its middle-age art; its capacious porch, the designs of some of its windows, and its overhanging upper stories (upon rude corbels), and its inner gallery leading to what once were bed-chambers, all denote the pile to have been erected in the early portion of the fifteenth century. We miss "the windpipes of hospitality," as chimneys have been happily styled; but we must recollect that they were not requisite in the original appropriation of the structure, and therefore did not form a feature of the original design. At the point of each gable is a small campanile or bell-tower, of some architectural beauty, which makes us regret that the building has not been preserved more intact, or has not attracted the attention of restorers.

In the town of Norton St. Philip's was formerly held the most noted cloth fair in the west of England; and the large upper room of the George Inn was the exchange or place of assembling for the merchants attending this great mart.

Somersetshire, it will be recollected, was the principal scene of Monmouth's rebellion against James II.; and it was at Norton St. Philip's that the ill-fated Duke was attacked, on June 27, 1685, by the Royalists, whose advanced guard had marched from Bath, under the Duke of Grafton, Monmouth's half-brother. Colonel Holmes, who was at the head of Monmouth's army, had an arm nearly shot off in the engagement; and it is related that the brave soldier, unassisted, completed the amputation with the cook's knife in the kitchen of the George Inn. The large projecting window lights the apartment wherein James slept on the night of the above battle; and the room is to this day known as "the King's Chamber."



THE GEORGE INN, NORTON ST. PHILIP'S, SOMERSET.

The adjoining house, too, has its historic record. In this humble dwelling, though it has a bell-tower like its massive neighbour, was born the late Mr. Rundell, the wealthy goldsmith, of Ludgate-hill, who furnished the crown and table of many a Sovereign, and died a millionaire.

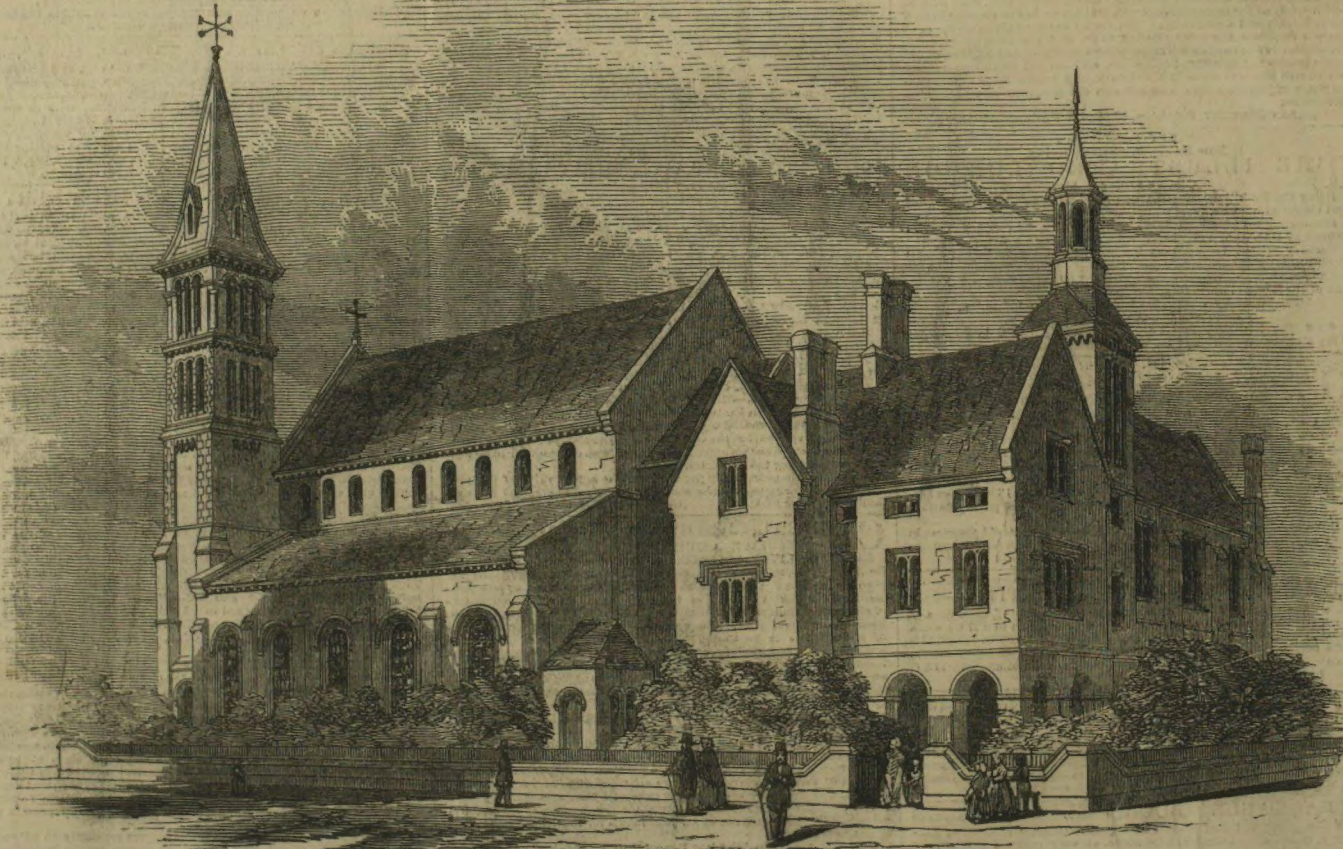
CHRIST CHURCH AND SCHOOLS, BERMONDSEY.

THESE Schools, which have just been completed, are erected immediately adjoining the new church belonging to the district of Christ Church, situate at the corner of Parkin's-row and the Neckinger-road. The material is chiefly brick; and the style of architecture designed to harmonise with the church, which is Romanesque: the whole group has a pleasing effect.

The two upper stories of the front part of the building are arranged as residences for a master and mistress; the remaining portion being divided into appropriate class-rooms for 300 children. Under the residences is an open cloister for the use of the children, through which is the girl's entrance; that or the boys being in the rear, in Thomas-street.

W. Bennett Hays, Esq., is the architect; and Mr. Benjamin Wells, of Bermondsey, the builder. The Schools cost £1100. The principal part of this sum was provided by the Southwark Fund for Building Churches, &c.; the remainder by a grant from the National Society, and from local subscription.

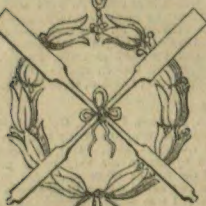
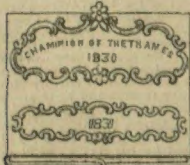
The Church was consecrated on the 19th of June last by the Lord Bishop of Winchester. It contains accommodation for 970 persons, and cost £4870. The Rev. R. Marshall Martin is the incumbent of the district, whose exertions have been mainly instrumental towards the completion of these buildings.



CHRIST CHURCH AND SCHOOLS, BERMONDSEY.

THAMES CHAMPIONSHIP INSIGNIA.

THE honorary distinction which we have here engraved is to be hereafter worn by those amateur rowers on the Thames who have held the "silver sculls;" the victory conferring upon the holder the title of "Champion of the Thames."



In the decoration, the wreath is green enamel; the sculls are of silver; the clasps gilt (each clasp signifying the year of victory); and the ribbon dark blue. This boat-race was established in the year 1830, when a well-known amateur rower, in consequence of the dearth in sculling-matches, and with a view to encourage the art, presented, for competition, a pair of small model silver sculls (symbolical of the Championship), enclosed in a case bearing this inscription:—"These Sculls were, in the year 1830, presented by Henry C. Wingfield to the Amateur Scullers on the Thames, to be held by the Best for the time being, on condition of his rowing at half flood from Westminster to Putney, against all Challengers, annually, on the 10th day of August, for Ever." The prize has since been annually contested by the best amateurs, and the contest has produced excellent sport—the distance, five miles and a half, severely testing the condition, strength, and dexterity of the

competitors. In consequence of the inconvenience arising from steam-boats, this, the last, important match on the old water from Westminster to Putney has just been changed for Putney to Kew; and it was considered a desirable opportunity to confer on the champion of so important a race a more lasting memento than that previously granted to him (which was merely the engraving his name and the year of victory on a silver plate attached to the box inclosing the sculls; and which, being given up to, and held by, each successful competitor, afforded the ex-champion no memorial of his past prowess), in the shape of honorary insignia, or mark of distinction; whilst it was also thought that the right to such a distinction would materially tend to increase the public interest in the match. Hence the annexed "Order of Merit."

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.—The Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History proposes, in this term, to read Eusebius and Bede. The first lecture will be given on Tuesday, February 13.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Margaret Professor of Divinity will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 31, and continue them on the subsequent Wednesdays and Fridays, till further notice, his lectures "On the Use of the Early Fathers, and in Illustration of the Condition, Structure, and Doctrines of the Church of the First Three Centuries." Before the end of the term, he will add a few lectures on that portion of the "Apology of Tertullian" which has been selected as a subject for the voluntary theological examination in October next. The Norrisian Professor of Divinity will begin his lectures for the Lent Term on Thursday, Feb. 1, at one o'clock; and will continue them at the same hour on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, throughout the remainder of the term.

ORDINATION.—The Lord Bishop of Manchester held an ordination at the Cathedral church on Sunday last, when twelve deacons and three priests were admitted into holy orders. The ordination sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Wray.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL.—About a month since, the Dean and Chapter of Bristol Cathedral issued an order for the discontinuance of the practice of chanting or intoning the service. This unprecedented act was the instant occasion of great excitement on the part of the congregation, who felt deeply hurt at the change, and expressed themselves on every occasion with great earnestness, but without the indulgence of any intemperate language. Finding all remonstrance vain, a number of the lay congregation who usually attend divine worship in the Cathedral have addressed a memorial to the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, praying for his interference, as visitor, and which memorial has been presented to his Lordship by the High Sheriff of the County and Mayor of the City, who acted as a deputation for the memorialists. After expressing the profoundest respect for the office, as well as for the personal character of the Bishop, and their pain at the "sudden interruption of the in-memorial manner of conducting divine worship in our Cathedral," the memorialists proceed to say: "We reckon among the best portions of our inheritance, as English Churchmen, the privilege of partaking in that sublime and uplifting service, for whose dignified and coherent performance such ample provision has been made. We hold that we, and all who by our common nature are attuned for that service in its perfect beauty, are as